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COMMENT OF THE DAY

Mr Nixon And The Neutralists

Mr Richard Nixon's "important speech" turned out in the main to be a homily on the dangers of neutralism. It will be read with interest by the leaders of such neutral countries as India, Indonesia, Burma and Ceylon, but is not likely to divert them from their chosen policy of rejecting association with any military pacts or power blocs.

The American Vice-President appeared to be striving to present a revised line of thought on the subject of neutralism; he injected into his speech a tone of sympathetic understanding; a recognition that if neutralism as a national policy might be misguided, at any rate it was not actuated by evil motives.

Admittedly the adoption of neutralism by countries who have only in recent times won their independence and whose ability to withstand Communist infiltration and political pressure is a matter for some doubt, is not easily comprehended. Yet it is not an illogical policy, having its roots in the sincere belief that the nation's independence can only be wholly maintained by eschewing alliances. In short the neutralists want to work out their own political salvation.

ONE interesting aspect of Mr Nixon's remarks was the implication that neutralism, even if not to be heartily approved, could at least be respected as a carefully chosen policy of political independence. This is a welcome new American approach, and a significant departure from the hitherto more popular attitude of outright condemnation of neutralism.

The neutralists, however, will take issue with Mr Nixon when he suggests they are guilty of refusing to make moral distinctions between the Communist world and the free world. The same accusation might be levelled against those nations who have extended recognition to the Peking government, and it would be equally absurd.

The distinctions are self-evident; they do not require emphasising. It is unfair to suggest the neutrals do not recognise them simply because they do not prate about them. As neutralists they can hardly be expected to sit in public judgment on the moral distinctions between Communism and Democracy. Of more importance and significance is the fact that India, the greatest of the neutralists, remains a very active member of the British Commonwealth and thereby demonstrates her faith in the principles of the free world.

MR Nixon's warning to the neutralists was, however, not without point. The danger of Communist colonialism is great and the countries which have chosen the path of neutralism must expect to be sorely pressed by Communist influence from within and without. Their economic weaknesses make them vulnerable and they run the risk of being beguiled by rich promises of unconditional aid which could camouflage sinister designs.

Regarded in its broadest context, Mr Nixon's speech was one of the friendliest and most understanding yet addressed to the neutralists by an American political leader. It was a more realistic appraisal of neutralism than that attempted by Mr Foster Dulles or some American congressmen. Presumably it was intended to reflect the official viewpoint, in which event it will probably make a valuable contribution to closer understanding between the United States and the neutralists.

ARABS GET STAND-BY ORDERS

Alert On Israeli Frontiers

JEWS DENY ARMED FORCES CONCENTRATED ON BORDER

London, July 4.

Arab armies on the borders of Israel were alerted today following reports that Israel was massing forces on the Jordan armistice line.

However the Israeli Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem described the troop concentration report as "pure fabrication."

It was understood the United Nations troop supervisor, General E. L. M. Burns, did not consider the danger of attack to be serious. Chief cause for concern appeared to be that the sudden alarm might cause impetuosity.

Here are reports from Middle East Centres indicating reaction to the reports:

FROM JORDAN:

A spokesman for Jordan's Arab Legion said Israeli troops had massed all along the Jordan frontier and particularly around Jerusalem.

"It cannot be ascertained now whether the Jordanian frontiers will be subject to an immediate or comprehensive aggression," he said.

But he said the Arab Legion was prepared to "repel aggression."

Beirut Radio said "standby orders" were issued to the armies of Egypt, Syria and the Lebanon.

Arab radio stations said the Egyptian and Syrian armies were ready to go to Jordan's aid if she were attacked.

In Amman, King Hussein summoned all Arab Diplomatic representatives and informed them of recent developments on the Israeli-Jordanian frontier. He also saw the representatives of the tripartite powers.

LEBANON:

The Lebanese Government held an emergency meeting and then issued a statement saying "It is feared that Israel may launch an attack on Jordan shortly."

The president, M. Camille Chamoun, earlier today received the American and Vatican ambassadors in Beirut to protest to them about Israel "aggression."

He called on Britain, the United States and France—signatories of the tripartite declaration which guaranteed the Israel-Arab truce lines—"to intervene immediately" to prevent any violation.

SYRIA:

A Beirut message says the reports of Israeli troop concentrations are associated with Israel's recently-announced intention to go ahead with her plan to divert the waters of the River Jordan, a project which it stopped almost three years ago pending consideration of the matter by the United Nations.

Jordan Government spokesmen have repeatedly said that any Israeli plan to divert the waters of the Jordan—which flows through Jordan territory for 95 miles—would be considered an act of aggression.

ISRAEL:

At first an Israeli spokesman suggested that the report of troop movements was considered provocation by Arab nations.

Later authoritative Israeli sources denied that Israel had planned an attack on the Arab nations. They said there had been no particular movement of troops in Israel and that though fortifications were being built, they were not for aggressive purposes.

Subsequently the Foreign Ministry issued its "pure fabrication" statement.

PARATROOPERS HIT BACK AT ARMS RAIDERS

Rabat, July 4.

French paratroopers were dropped today in southern Morocco near the Algerian border in a new move aimed at stopping raids on arms depots in the area.

The paratroopers landed at the small post of Foun El Hassane, some 30 miles from the frontier of Spanish Sahara and 150 miles north-west of the Algerian town of Tindouf. This post had been evacuated by the French army several months ago.

The airborne landing followed the dispatch of French troop reinforcements into the area of Agadir on Morocco's west coast where large quantities of French arms have been stolen recently. Meanwhile, a tense situation was reported in the port of Agadir itself. A general strike of unlimited duration was ordered today by Morocco's leading trades union in the town in protest against the movement of French troops into the area.

Earlier in the day, the Moroccan population had placed trucks, stones and wooden barriers across the streets to prevent the arrival of French troops in the town. The local Moroccan authorities removed the barricades to prevent incidents.—France-Press.

'Profound Crisis' In Hungary

Paris, July 4.

The latest issue of Budapest newspapers the existence of a profound crisis in Hungary.

In a single issue of "Szabad Nép" for example—a paper reflecting the view of Communist Party Secretary Mathias Rakosi—there are contradictions like this:

First, there is a resolution of the Central Committee, condemning political agitation by supporters of former Premier Imre Nagy.

Renewed Power

Next, the reader finds articles demanding renewed power for the trade unions and a return to "the more wholesome practices of parliamentarism."

In one of these articles, it is claimed that "the ministers and other leaders responsible for our economic life consider the trade unions to be insignificant auxiliaries—it is not actually an inevitable evil."

"Important decisions affecting the salaries and social conditions of the workers are very often taken without even consulting the unions," the article continued.

"The heads of shop committees are responsible to the national offices of their unions, and do not feel responsible to the workers in their own plants—the unions have become bureaucracies, detached from the working class."

The full significance of this article, demanding more democracy in the trade unions, is brought home by the fact that it appears side by side with news and commentaries about the developments in Poznan, Poland.

Under the new regulations, Cabinet members and the head of the Supreme Court will be required to report regularly on their activities. The number of parliamentary committees is to be increased, and their right to initiate legislation will be restored.

Reinstatement

In addition, the latest available number of Budapest's "Liberty Gazette" reveals that Communist and Communist-sympathising writers almost unanimously opposed Rakosi's position at a meeting on June 22.

Several speakers demanded the reinstatement of Nagy, whose ousting from the Communist Party six months ago has only just been announced by the party organ.—France-Press.

FOR FIVE MONTHS EVERY FOUR YEARS

MP Asks The Queen To Live In Canada

Ottawa, July 4.

The Queen should live in Canada three to five months every four years, Mr Wallace Nesbitt said in the House of Commons today.

He made the suggestion as the House examined the Departmental Appropriations of the Secretary of State, Mr. Roch Pinard. He urged the Government to consider recommending the idea to the Queen.

Mr Nesbitt said the Queen might consider coming to Canada "at least for the opening of each new Parliament" and then taking up residence for three, four or five months. The normal life of a Parliament is four years.

Mr Nesbitt, a Progressive Conservative, thought it would be a good idea if the Queen resided in different parts of the Commonwealth at various times. He also urged the government to "carefully explore the idea of exchanging Governors General" with other members of the Commonwealth.

POLITICAL PERKS

He thought such a practice would emphasize that "there is some tangible relationship between the members of the Commonwealth."

Mr Nesbitt said he did not think it would be wise for the Government to continue appointing Canadians to the post of Governor General. That, he said, might "very well lead to the appointments being purely political in nature."

The present Governor General, Mr Vincent Massey, is the first Canadian to hold the vice-regal post.

Some parts of the Empire—such as Nigeria and the Gold Coast—were not yet members of the Commonwealth but would be eventually, Mr Nesbitt noted. He foresaw the day when the Queen's representative in Canada would come from such countries.

Some members of the Commonwealth, like India, did not have the same relationship to the Crown as others, he said. However, a practice of exchanging Governors General might draw such countries as India and Pakistan "into somewhat closer relationships with the rest."—United Press.

Shouts Of Joy... Then Screams MAYPOLE COLLAPSES: 12 HURT IN FALL

New York, July 4.

Children's happy shouts turned to screams of terror today when a carnival amusement tower collapsed during a Fourth of July celebration.

More than 20 youngsters were hurt to the ground at Duxbury, Mass. Police said they were riding on wooden seats attached to a maypole fashion by a link chain to a 20-foot steel tower.

Two Adults Struck

Two adult bystanders were struck by flying debris as the tower tore loose from a foundation.

The youngsters, flying in a high arc over the crowd, plunged to the ground.

Police closed the accident area and ordered hysterical mothers held back from the children.

Twelve children, three of them in critical condition, were taken to a Plymouth hospital by ambulance.—United Press.

More Arrests

Buenos Aires, July 4.

The Argentine police carried out widespread searches and arrests early this morning in several Buenos Aires suburbs, well informed sources disclosed.

The police operation was said to have been aimed at uncovering Peronist organisations involved in the abortive revolt on June 9.—France-Press.



Sir Bernard

DOCKER SAYS: 'I'LL FIGHT'

Bid To Return To BSA Board

London, July 4.

Sir Bernard Docker, 59-year-old millionaire industrialist, today announced plans to try to win back his position as Chairman and director of the giant Birmingham Small Arms Company, from which he was recently ousted.

He said that at a special meeting called by shareholders to discuss his dismissal he would call for the removal of four directors from the B.S.A. board and propose his own reinstatement.

For more than a month Sir Bernard Docker has been preparing to challenge the men who threw him out.

In the fight with him is his blonde wife, Lady Norah Docker, whose gold-plated Daimler car and unashamed liking for yacht trips, pink and luxury parties have won her world-wide publicity.

Both of them have recently appeared on television programmes to appeal for support from company shareholders.

More than 10 per cent of the shareholders in the £25 million company have petitioned for the meeting, which is to be held within three weeks.—Reuter.

New Malaya Terrorist Leader?

Kuala Lumpur, July 4.

A frail elderly Chinese intellectual may now be directing Communist terrorists in Malaya, sources close to the Special Branch said today.

He is Ah Fatt, a former union leader.

The sources said Ah Fatt had taken over the duties of Chan Loo, 40p terrorist in Selangor state, central Malaya, who was killed by security forces in December.

They said the Special Branch based their belief on certain terrorist documents now in their hands.

The sources said just before Chan Loo died, he had perfected plans to foment agitation in Selangor Chinese schools.

The Special Branch now believe that Ah Fatt had inherited this job and achieved a certain measure of success, the sources said.—Reuter.

U.S. Food Offer Turned Down

London, July 4.

Poland today rejected the American offer of food made after the Poznan riots last week according to Warsaw radio.

In a broadcast the radio said that the offer was "propaganda" and Poland would not accept arms although she was ready to buy corn from America in the course of normal business.

The American State Department offered to make the food available to the International Red Cross without cost "at an appropriate port of entry in Poland."

The only condition was that the foodstuffs—including wheat and flour—were to be marked as a gift from the American people.—Reuter.

CIGS' Plane In Air Mishap

Ankara, July 4.

A RAF plane carrying General Sir Gerald Templer, Chief of the Imperial General Staff on a tour of Turkish service bases, made an emergency landing at Malatya in south-east Turkey today.

A door of the plane—a Hastings—flew off and slightly damaged the tail.

The pilot landed as a precautionary measure.

CHANGES PLANES

The Turkish authorities arranged for another plane for General Templer to continue to visit army and air force bases Adiyarbakir and Erzurum, close to the Soviet frontier.

The Royal Air Force are sending out another aircraft.

General Templer is due to stay at Erzurum tonight. He is expected to fly to Istanbul tomorrow for a two-day visit, during which he will sail up the Bosphorus in a Turkish warship as far as the Black Sea.—Reuter.

BAD NEWS FOR SACKED CAR MEN

Birmingham, July 4.

Six thousand car workers, who were sacked at the week-end, were told tonight there was no possibility of getting their jobs back in the near future.

This was stated after a meeting between trade union executives and the employers, the giant British Motor Corporation, one of Britain's leading car combines.

The men were sacked because of cuts in the Corporation's home and export orders.

The statement issued after the meeting also revealed that the employers had turned down the trade union claim for compensation for the sacked workers because of its national implications.—Reuter.

NOW BRITAIN HAS STEEL STRIKE

London, July 4.

Union leaders, representing 14,000 British steel workers, today decided to call off all their members on strike on July 14.

OH DEAR!

Now It's RUBBER SHOES

London, July 5.

Socialist MP Norman Dodds will ask the President of the Board of Trade in the House of Commons today to disclose the number of pairs of rubber footwear imported from Hongkong so far this year and comparable figures for 1951 and 1955.

In an interview, Mr Dodds said: "I believe the figures will show there has been a tremendous increase in this sort of business."

He will also ask the Board of Trade President how many cotton shirts have been imported to Britain in 1956 and what are the comparable figures for the same two years.

Mr Dodds said: "I want to know whether it is in the best interests of the country to continue this sort of business."—Our Own Correspondent.

MP Told: 'We'll Not Interfere'

London, July 4.

Mr John Hare, Minister of State for Colonial Affairs, said today he did not wish to intervene when a Labour member urged him in the House of Commons to "re-establish freedom of speech" in Singapore.

Mr Hare, a Labour member, had asked why the Police banned public meeting organised by the People's Action Party.

"In view of the fact that this will create antagonism, will you take steps to re-establish freedom of speech," he asked.

Mr Hare replied "permission to hold these meetings was withheld because the Singapore Government considered that they might at the present juncture arouse mass emotions which could lead to disorders."

"These are matters on which Singapore ministers are best able to judge and in which I should not wish to intervene."—Reuter.

Labour Policy

London, July 4.

The Labour Party parliamentary group today adopted a foreign policy programme, calling for economic aid to underdeveloped countries. To be distributed through the United Nations.—France-Press.

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PMs DISCUSS SOVIET CHANGES AND IMPACT ON WORLD

By FRASER WIGHTON

London, July 4.

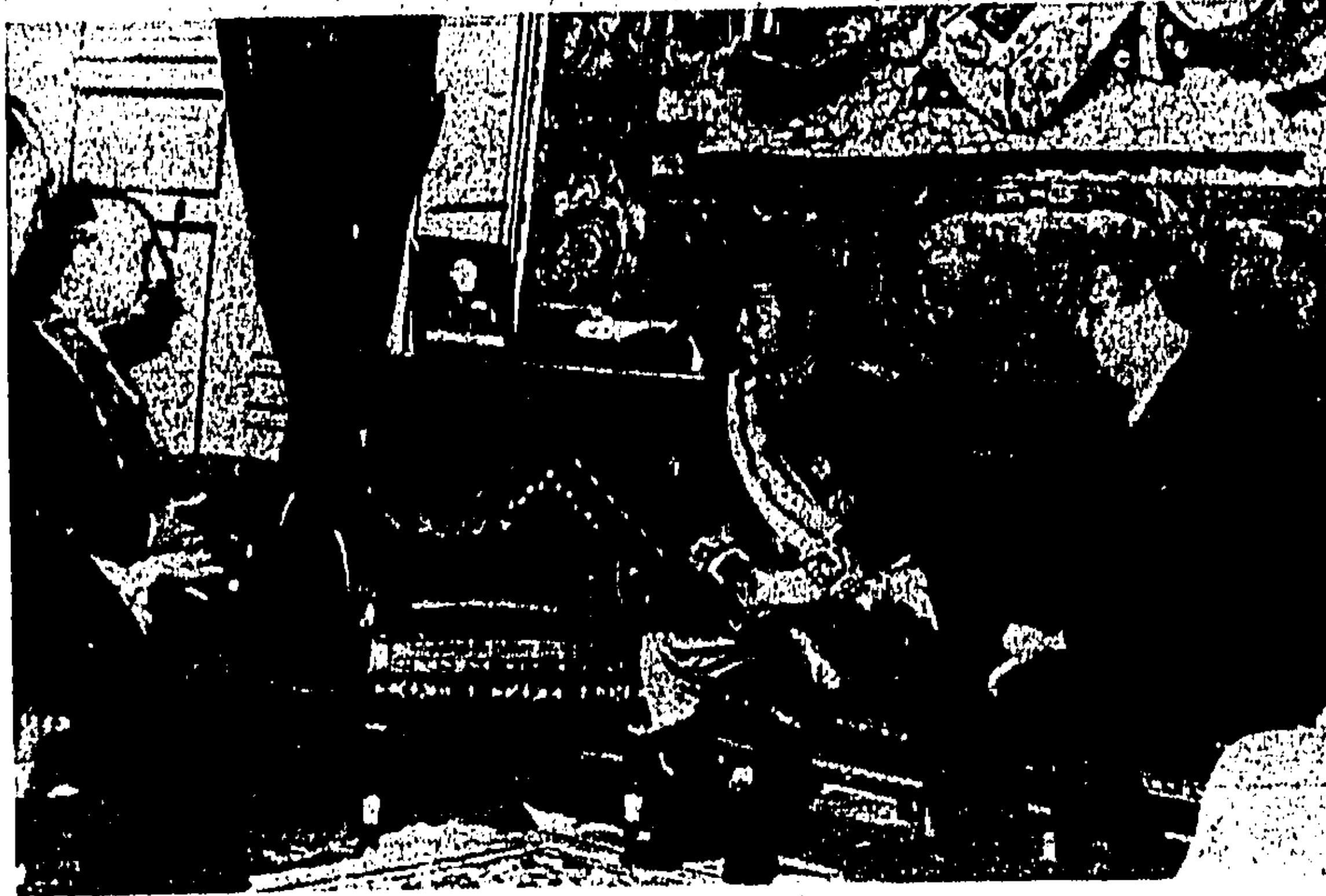
The Prime Ministers of the Commonwealth completed the main business of their 10-day conference here tonight with a final discussion on recent changes in Russia and their impact on world tensions.

The general feeling of the meeting, according to Commonwealth sources, was that it is still too early to assess the full meaning of the new situation.

The nine Commonwealth statesmen have spent two previous sessions of the conference discussing this topic, and various views have been expressed on the reasons of the changes. Some prime ministers considered them a compound of many factors, including internal developments in the Soviet Union.

The prime ministers instructed their officials to begin drafting the official communiqué to be issued when the conference is formally closed on Friday. The officials will meet tomorrow morning and in the afternoon the prime ministers will examine the first draft.

The sources said the communiqué was expected to call for greater efforts by the Commonwealth countries to expand production and increase their exports particularly to the hard currency areas where dollars can be earned.



Prince Norodom Sihanouk of Cambodia, centre, is pictured being received by General Franco in Madrid on the occasion of the Prince's official visit to Spain. General Franco is seen on the left; Spanish Foreign Minister Martin Artajo is seated beside the Prince — Express Photo.

Prince Norodom
And Franco

Britain Refuses Claims To Protectorates

London, July 4.

The British Government has refused to accept new claims by the Union of South Africa to the three British protectorates of Bechuanaland, Basutoland and Swaziland in South Africa, it was announced today.

An official communiqué said the South African Premier, J. G. Strijdom, had raised the question during the transfer of the Prime Ministers' conference, now taking place in London.

The communiqué said the South African Premier had "reiterated the Union Government's desire for the transfer of the protectorates," while British ministers had "reiterated the British Government's position."

"Agreement was not reached," added the communiqué.

One of the main obstacles to the incorporation of the three British protectorates in the Union of South Africa is the racial policy of the Union's present government, well-informed quarters here said.

This policy has given rise to widespread misgivings in British public opinion.

The three protectorates have a population of one million Africans and 5,000 Europeans.—France-Press.

NEW TIN STRIKE THREAT

Ipoh, July 4.

The Kinta division of the Malayan Mining Employees Union announced today that it would stage a sympathy strike from Friday involving 935 workers on six dredges owned by the Malayan Tin Dredging Company.

A union spokesman said miners in the Kinta district, near Ipoh, had decided to down their tools to support 365 miners on two other dredges belonging to the same company who went on strike on June 27.

'ANTI-UNION' WORKER

The strike began when 120 workers on a dredge at Kampong Batu Gajah protested against the continued employment of a Chinese fitter. The workers alleged that the fitter was "anti-union." Later 230 workers on another dredge and in workshops also struck.

The Malayan Tin Dredging Company yesterday warned strikers that they would be dismissed if they did not report for duty by Saturday.—Reuter.

Peking Leaves Door Open To Taiwan

Paris, July 4.

A former Nationalist Chinese General said in Shanghai yesterday: "Our country has left the door wide open and we hope the Taiwan authorities will send over delegates to negotiate concrete steps for the peaceful liberation of Taiwan," the New China News Agency reported tonight.

General Chin Yi Pin, who is now a member of the Shanghai City Committee of the Chinese Peoples Political Consultative Conference, made this statement at a discussion meeting on the peaceful liberation of Taiwan, held by the Committee yesterday.

Fai Sung Fu, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the former Nationalist 34th Army Group, and now a member of the Committee, said: "We should join hands and unite to oppose foreign aggressors."

Another former Nationalist officer said: "Anyone in Taiwan who has the least conscience, should, for his own interests and future, take to the road of patriotism and contribute to the peaceful liberation of Taiwan."—France-Press.

To Visit N. Korea

Paris, July 4.

The Prime Minister and party chief of Albania, Mehmet Hodja, has accepted an invitation to visit North Korea, the Albanian ATA agency reported today.

The invitation was extended by North Korean Premier, Kim Il Sung, during a visit to Tirana recently.—France-Press.

100,000-TON TANKER VISUALISED

Monte Carlo, July 4.

Greek-born multi-millionaire shipowner, Aristotele Onassis, may build in the United States the world's largest oil tanker in a deal with the United States Merchant Marine Office, the Onassis combine announced in Monte Carlo today.

The combine said the US Merchant Marine Office had provisionally agreed to the transfer of certain of Onassis US registered vessels to another national flag.

The Office has agreed to the concession on condition that Onassis orders from US shipyards four oil tankers—one, the world's largest, to be of 100,000 tons, another of 40,000 tons and two of 32,000 tons.

Negotiations are continuing, the combine said.—France-Press.

Fighting The Water Hyacinth

Leopoldville, July 4.

About 100,000 posters in French, Flemish, and four African languages will be distributed throughout the Belgian Congo next September as propaganda against the Water Hyacinth.

This plant has become the scourge of the Congo's waterways, multiplying so rapidly that it threatens to disrupt navigation.

As from the beginning of September, cinemas in the Congo will begin showing a series of ten documentary films on the fight against the Water Hyacinth.—China Mail Special.

Green Marble For Export Again

Athens, July 4.

The Green marble quarries of Hasambali (near Larissa) will shortly start operating under a Greek Italian Company. The required machinery has already reached the port of Volos, and the first shipment of Greek marble will be sent abroad this summer.

The green marble of Hasambali is in great demand abroad and, in the old days, was used to decorate Agia Sophia and the Cathedral of St Peter in Rome. The quarries have been closed since 1925.—China Mail Special.

River Anchorage

Melbourne, July 4.

A £250,000 research laboratory for Imperial Chemical Industries was completed four months ahead of schedule in spite of the fact engineers found themselves over-submerged in the River and had to sink 100 concrete piles 50 feet deep for foundations.—China Mail Special.

Law Of Sea Approved By International UN Commission

Geneva, July 4.

The United Nations International Law Commission ended its 8th session here today with unanimous approval of its draft on the law of the sea in time of peace.

Mathilde Married Happily

Melbourne, July 4.

German emigrant Mathilde Moesmer and Franz Streiberg, who have been in Australia for only two months were married with a church ceremony here because of the kindness of nine Australian women who secretly "organised" the wedding.

When the couple arrived, they expected to marry in a registry office, with only the witnesses present, as they had no friends here.

But eight typists in the accounts branch of Victoria's Public Works Department heard of their difficulties, and with a friend, Mrs. Ivan Ingman, secretly planned the wedding arrangements.

They organised flowers, music, and photographers. Mrs. Ingman offered her home for the reception and the typists paid the bills.—China Mail Special.

BUNDESTAG WALK-OUT

Bonn, July 4.

The Social Democrat opposition deputies in the West German Bundestag today walked out of a debate on the second reading of a bill to enact compulsory military service in West Germany.

A spokesman for the Social Democrats said they had decided not to take part in the debate because of the systematic refusal of the majority to take into consideration the amendments to the bill, proposed by the Social Democrats.

Following the example of the Social Democrats, the other opposition parties in the Bundestag, the Liberals and the refugee group, also decided not to take part in the debate.

The Bundestag remained in session.—France-Press.

SUPPORT COSTS FOR TROOPS

West May Reopen Negotiations

Bonn, July 4.

The Western Powers have told West Germany that if any of them wish to reopen negotiations on support costs for troops stationed there, the talks should be unprejudiced by any former agreement, according to an exchange of memoranda published here today.

The West German Foreign Minister, Dr. Heinrich von Brentano, said last week that his country regards the cash payment she would make for support this year as the "last payment of this kind."

The memorandum from West Germany to Britain, the United States and France, and those from the Western "Big Three" replying to Germany, state the amounts Germany is to pay in cash to help maintain troops for her defence.

Under the agreement Britain receives 400 million Marks (about £33 million), the United States 650 million Marks (about £54 million) and France 278 million Marks (about £23 million) in the current year.

The Western allies added in their replies to the German memorandum that if they should wish to reopen the question, existing agreements should not prevent them from doing so.—China Mail Special.

Pineau Confers With Tunisian Ambassador

Paris, July 4.

French Foreign Minister, M. Christian Pineau, today conferred with the Tunisian Ambassador to France, M. Belkhouja, on two recent incidents involving the two countries.

M. Pineau and the Ambassador discussed a Tunisian radio broadcast last week on French policy in Algeria, and the search by French forces of the Libyan Ambassador to Tunisia, at the Tunisian frontier on July 1.

The Tunisian Government today lodged a protest with the French Government against the search of the Libyan Ambassador and rejected a French protest against the radio broadcast.—France-Press.

Oil Pipeline Statement Causes Confusion

By RONALD BATCHELOR

Beirut, July 4.

The Lebanese Government's various statements about its attitude towards the pipelines and installations of the British-owned Iraq Petroleum Company have caused confusion.

The complicated row between the IPC and the Government stems from the latter's demand for parity with Syria over payments for oil passing through its territory.

Last Monday Mr. Saeb Salim, Minister of State, told a Press

conference that, according to the company's agreement with the Government, all installations and pipelines had become the property of the Lebanon after May 25. The same night the Information Ministry issued a statement that Mr. Salim had said: "The company's pipelines and installations became the outright property of the Government after May 25, 1956, in case of the company ending its activities in the Lebanon."

IPC headquarters there showed this correspondent an agree-

ment made with the Lebanon in March 1951, in which it is stated that the company's property would become the property of the Lebanese Government free of charge "where notice of abandonment has been given after expiry of 25 years."

A company official said it is unlikely that pipelines and installations in the Lebanon would be "abandoned." Also, confusing people here is the draft law, unanimously approved by Parliament last Friday, imposing retroactive taxation on IPC and other

companies to January 1, 1952, as a result of the breakdown in the oil royalty talks.

Mr. Salim told this correspondent that the approval and signing of the draft law by President Chamoun was a "mere formality." But many Lebanese businessmen say the President will not sign it, and there is no indication tonight what has happened to the draft law since leaving Parliament. It has certainly not yet been signed.—China Mail Special.

CRISIS IN SUDAN

Khartoum, July 4.

Sudan Premier, Ismail El Ashari, today lost a vote of confidence for his coalition government by 60 votes to 51.

The confidence vote had been demanded by the opposition.

Seven members of El Ashari's coalition Cabinet resigned several hours before the confidence vote in order to vote against the Government.

The police took important security measures to prevent any disorders arising from the Government crisis.—France-Press.

Singapore Housing Programme

QUESTION IN THE COMMONS

London, July 4.

Mr. Stanley Aulberry, Labour, asked in the House of Commons today for details of Singapore's housing programme.

He asked what were the estimated housing requirements, the average number of houses built during the last five years by the Singapore Improvement Trust and the estimates for the current year.

Mr. John Hare, Minister of State for Colonial Affairs, replied: "The Singapore minister, published last year, estimates that 10,000 housing units a year need to be built in Singapore to provide for slum clearance and the increase in population over the next 20 years."

"The Singapore Improvement Trust built an annual average of 2,016 units during the years 1951-1955 and expect to build 2,272 this year"—Reuter.

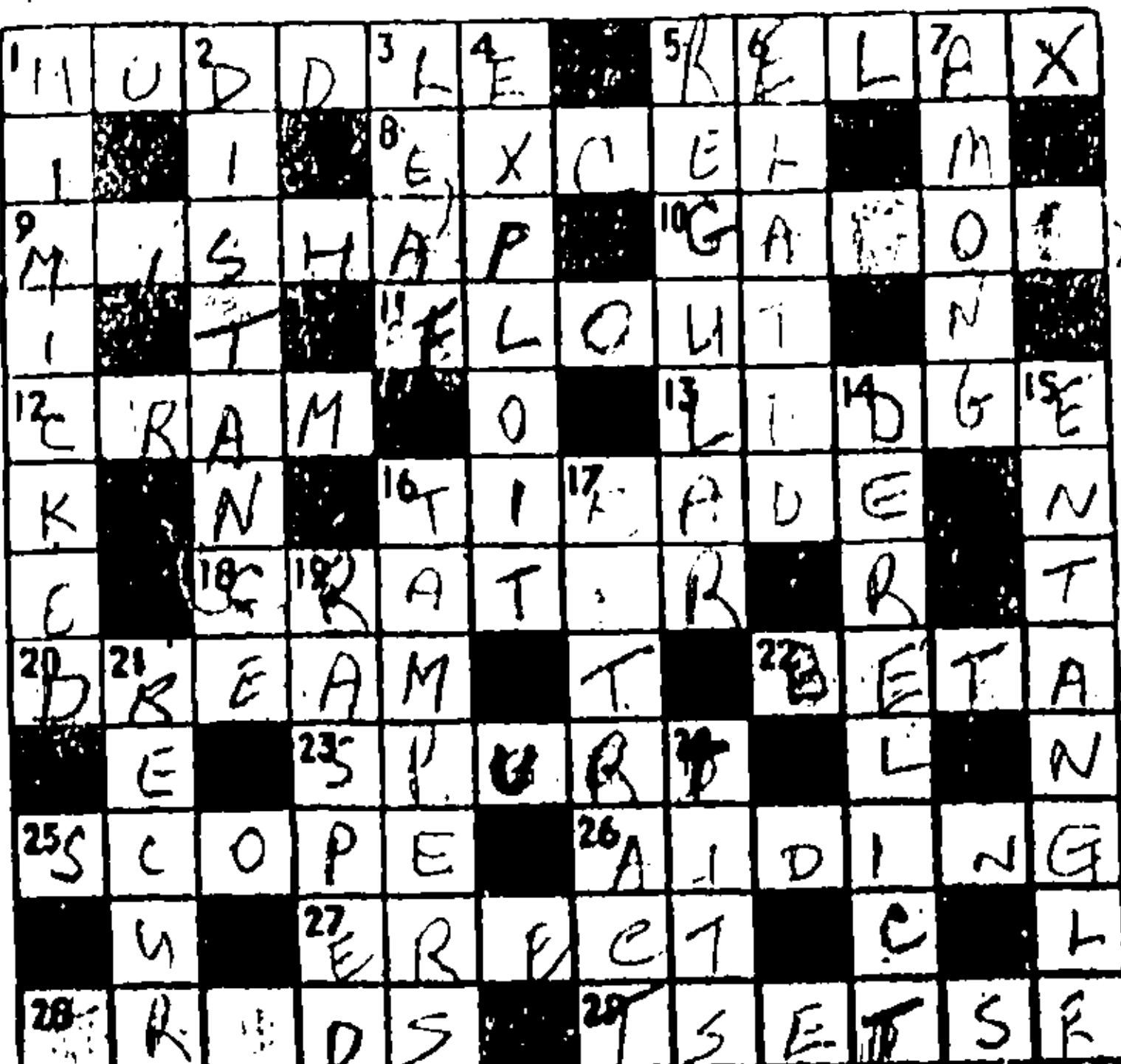
103 Kidnapped

London, July 4.

A total of 103 persons have been kidnapped by the Russians from the British sector of Berlin since the end of World War II, the Marquis of Rensselaire, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, said today.

The Marquis, who was replying to a question in the House of Commons, said there had been no reports of kidnappings in the past four months.—France-Press.

A British Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS
- Confusion (8).
 - Ease off (5).
 - Surpass (5).
 - Accident (6).
 - Dance (5).
 - Treat with contempt (6).
 - Stuff (4).
 - Shell (5).
 - Vehement speech (6).
 - Shell-hole (6).
 - Victim (5).
 - Crook letter (4).
 - Accelerate (5).
 - Opportunity (5).
 - Helping (6).
 - Upright (5).
 - Small nails (5).
 - Poisonous fly (6).

- DOWN
- Initiated (8).
 - Remoteness (8).
 - Part of a plant (4).
 - Deed (7).
 - Habitual (7).
 - Delighted (6).
 - Amid (5).
 - Abandoned (8).
 - Examine (5).
 - Interfere with (7).
 - Withdrew (7).
 - Graced (6).
 - Repeat (8).
 - Birds (4).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD: Across: 3 Char, 7 Flood, 8 Oral, 9 Evil, 10 Episode, 12 Epic, 15 Optic, 18 Flat, 19 Ample, 21 Oriel, 22 Asia, 23 Silver, 26 Reds, 29 Delayed, 30 Aris, 31 Epic, 32 Demon, 33 Kite, Down: 1 Slope, 2 Console, 4 Haven, 5 Role, 6 Sage, 9 Edit, 11 Opals, 13 Pupa, 14 Ewer, 16 Easel, 17 Dour, 18 Bird, 20 Minaret, 22 Area, 24 Idiot, 25 Sloop, 27 Epsy, 28 Sack.

Bouncing back

INDESTRUCTIBLE ROONEY ROCKS THE CRITICS . . .



ROONEY RISKS MONEY IN A CRAP GAME

HE'S OUT FOR THE JACKPOT

MY MONEY . . . PAL!

HE RAKES IN HIS DREAM

HE IS KILLED IN ACTION LOOKING FOR THE MONEY

THE BRITISH, more medicine-conscious than any other people, stand accused as a nation of hypochondriacs—a nation of people who imagine more illnesses than they ever really have. True? And if it is, does it matter? We are this week investigating this phenomenon, public and personal. PUBLICLY, we asked five ordinary people yesterday to give their medicine-buying habits. PERSONALLY, it asked Nancy Spain to reply to Derek Marks's anti-doctor article yesterday. First hear the rather reluctant five

HYPOCHONDRIAC*

★ THE LONG WORD EVERYBODY UNDERSTANDS



• Lt. Commander Arthur Brister, R.N.: I never go to a doctor and I don't carry medicine about with me. But my wife takes a lot of aspirin.



• Mrs. Francis Moss, housewife: I go to the doctor only in an emergency. I think pills are deadly things. We don't budget at all for medicines.



• Mr. John Sinnott, hotel proprietor: I never go to a doctor. I carry some pills to relieve my ulcer. I don't buy anything else.



• Mr. Reginald Durrant, chartered surveyor: I would go to a doctor only in an emergency. My family take halibut oil in the winter.



• Mrs. Marco Kilczycki, housewife: I go to the doctor if I have a bad cold. I always carry headache tablets with me. I get a bottle of tonic if I feel low.



QUESTIONS THAT
WILL TELL YOU IF
YOU TOO ARE ONE

Answer Yes or No to the following:—

1. Do you feel insulted if someone says how well you are?
2. Do you think your doctor a fool if he says there is nothing wrong with you?
3. Do you know the meanings of more than two of the following terms: metabolism, psychosomatic, enzyme, vitamin deficiency, cardiac murmur, urticaria?
4. Have you at this moment in pocket or handbag any pills not ordered by your doctor?
5. Do you take a clinical thermometer on holiday?
6. If you go abroad on holiday do you take your own pet remedies?
7. Do you ever suffer from amblyopia, a disease which chiefly affects highly intelligent and conscientious people and which has these symptoms: lassitude, loss of appetite, insomnia, general body aches, headache, and lack of concentration?
8. When you dip into a medical dictionary do you fancy you have everything in it?
9. Do you ever take your own pulse because you suddenly think your heart is going too fast or too slow?
10. If you wife—or husband—is off colour do you get irritable, thinking she is putting it on and cannot possibly be feeling nearly as ill as you do?

• SCORE: If you answer YES seven times or more you should stop bothering your doctor—you are a true hypochondriac.

FOOTNOTE to Question 7: There is NO such disease as "amblyopia".

I'm proud of my record

by...Nancy Spain

I AM a hypochondriac and proud of it. Ever since I can remember I have been taking pills, powders, and great big soothing draughts of cough mixture tasting of tar.

Every morning before I can face the world I hurriedly take my pills, powders, tablets and cough mixture. This is partly because I come from a long line of jolly, red-faced hypochondriacs on my mother's side. (Indeed, I can distinctly remember my grandmother as a dear, sweet-faced old lady carrying a big bottle of cod liver oil and a spoon.) But it is also because of the glorious strain and the exhilaration of modern life.

A hundred years ago most of my lovely pills and powders weren't invented.

In these days I could only have gone about quietly in a stage coach and fallen in love and sewed a long seam for gaiety and relaxation.

MY WEIGHT

WHEN I was a tot, you see, I had asthma. None of your mild, benign, wheezing. No, no, I had the real old-fashioned full-blown kind that made school teachers cry out in pious horror and made me the darling of the nation.

Why, I can distinctly remember sitting a scholarship exam, (for Roedean) at the age of 12

with a little bottle full of ephedrine hydrochloride. I had earned a thing or two before I took my school leaving certificate and took the ephedrine before I went into class.

Did it "do me any harm"? I'm afraid I don't know. It made me go rather blue in the face, and I was always rather cross afterwards. But I do remember I used to take a pill called allopurinol with the effect of a hydrogen bomb at the same time as the ephedrine.

Why? To clear the ephedrine out of my system.

I wasn't a pale-faced, round-shouldered wheezer. Oh, no. I was a great big, broad-shouldered young woman with a red face who weighed 11 stone and played cricket for the school.

I once played lacrosse (allegedly the fastest game in the world, bar polo) against Lancashire when I was having one of the worst asthmatic attacks of my life.

Well, I grew out of my asthma and some of my

hypochondria, when I became middle-aged. But I still cling, as savages cling to their totem poles, to a box of powders.

I have one on me as I write, and my doctor has told me that it has no effect on me whatsoever. "Rather less effect," he says, "than the average aspirin." Yet I once forgot to pack these powders when I was on holiday in the South of France. And I felt as if I were dying.

"The sensible, logical French don't stock these powders. What's the use of keeping something in stock that doesn't do you the slightest good?" they said, as I recoiled from chemist's shop to chemist's shop.

MY WORD

THEY offered me other sedatives, antispasmodics, antihistamines. I was shocked. "I couldn't possibly take those," I said. "Those are drugs."

After I have taken all my remedies, I like to settle down to a nice cosy chat with a fellow hypochondriac.

The best I have ever known is a man, I will call David. We used to dance classes in our babyhood. David and I, when David was a delicate, pear-shaped little boy with a white

wedged-shaped face. When we didn't want to do the polka we used to sit together, wheezing, behind the arras.

But then we grew up and the Second War came along. And David went into a tank regiment. "How do you get on, David?" I asked him, "with your asthma, and all that foul air and those exhaust fumes in the tank?"

"Oh," said David. "It isn't the hypochondriacs who collapse in a war. We know how to keep going, because we know where our weaknesses lie. It's the big, strong chaps who've never had a day's illness in their lives who keel over."

Now you may or may not agree with any of this. You may think that I am trying to pull your leg. But every word of this confession is the sober, honest truth.

Moreover, I am 38 years old and completely sound in mind and limb. I am one of the few really good insurance risks that I know. I am one of the strongest, healthiest people I have ever met.

And here's the moral. Only the very strong indeed can take the sort of medicines that we hypochondriacs take . . . and survive.

WANTED: A FRONT-PAGE ENVOY FOR BRITAIN

DON IDDON'S DIARY

WE are soon to have a new British Ambassador to the U.S. This is one of the world's most important jobs, particularly at this time.

During the period I have been here there have been Sir Ronald Lindsay, Lord Lothian, Lord Halifax, Lord Inverchapel, Sir Oliver Franks, and Sir Roger Makins occupying the big, red-brick British Embassy in Washington. Of these men, Lord Halifax was the most outstanding.

Controversy

HALIFAX was known to millions of Americans. When he made a speech it was usually on the front page. When he made a blunder, such as riding to hounds on a Sunday, it created a controversy. We have had no one like him over the past 15 years.

The present Ambassador, Sir Roger Makins, is tipped to be the next Permanent Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and he will probably do well.

Sir Roger, who has an American wife, is popular in Washington, but largely unknown to the American public.

In recent years our envoys and resident officials have not been personalities who have occupied much American attention. At a time when Great Britain is not getting a particularly good press an outstanding personality and skilled propagandist would be invaluable. Perhaps, we can't hope to get another Halifax, but have we considered Sir Gladwyn Jebb as the next British Ambassador to Washington?

Sir Gladwyn was not merely a success as the United Kingdom representative to the United Nations, he was a triumph. His face and voice became familiar to tens of millions of Americans as he

spoke before the television cameras. Strangers would stop Sir Gladwyn Jebb in the street and ask to shake his hand. Although Sir Gladwyn is not an inspired speaker, when he spoke he captured newspaper space and radio time.

Exasperated

HIS successor, Sir Pierson Dixon, has not been as fortunate, and there has been no electric issue such as Korea over which he could have shown his talent.

Send us a man of brilliance and personality to Washington. A man who can engage the attention and affection of the American people. Send us Sir Gladwyn.

In the past few days more and more newspapers, including the New York Times, have printed both sides of the medical opinion of fillets, the illness which necessitated the President's abdominal operation.

The important John S. Knight newspapers, which are fervent supporters of Mr. Eisenhower, are now condemning the Republican theme that the President is as fit and strong as ever.

Other newspapers are now showing objectivity in their reporting and comment. It will be a great shock, however, if the President decides not to run. The Republicans will be left without a candidate.

There are, naturally, among the President's family several who oppose his running for a second term in office. Mrs. Eisenhower does not want her husband to run again, but realises that only he can make the decision.

There has been one interesting revelation this week. President Eisenhower, in the first half of his term before his heart attack, was so exasperated at the refusal of die-hard Republicans to back his programme that he considered starting a third party to advance his "progressive moderate" policies.

This news was based in a new book, "Eisenhower: The Inside Story," by Robert Donovan, of the New York Herald-

Ava's label is dropped at last

PICTURE COMMENTARY
BY DAVID LEWIN

WHEN Mickey Rooney bounced back with a performance of "startling vitality" in a new film, called "The Bold and the Brave," the critics hauled out adjectives of praise they hadn't used on him in years.

The film soon goes out on general release. It will show that at the age of 33 and with a waistline which has spread considerably since he played in those Andy Hardy pictures,

Mickey Rooney is a young indestructible.

During the past six years Rooney has made more news with his wives (married four times: wife No. 1 being Ava Gardner) and his squabbles with producers than with his acting.

Now "The Bold and the Brave" shows an adult Andy Hardy going to war. Rooney plays a soldier winning a fortune at dice. His dream—"the most beautiful restaurant in Jersey"—is in his grasp. But he is forced to leave the money on a battlefield. As he goes out under fire to collect it, an enemy bullet kills him.

Rooney has shrugged off a recent trail of near misses, and a variety of jokes based on one crack by Ava Gardner. Miss Gardner once said about her former husband: "One day that I'll merely be known as the man who married me."

Mickey Rooney has now finally lived that down.

HOW THEY DO THINGS AT MOSCOW RADIO

From SYDNEY SMITH

THERE is trouble in Moscow Radio. Radio reporters have been discovered faking their stories and script-writers are being accused of "putting out a flood of trite, hackneyed stereotyped phrases—like a dismal autumn drizzle."

This attack, factual, detailed and scathing, although "humanised" and quite witty as well, came from Izvestia, which, with Pravda, is one of Russia's biggest national morning papers.

COMRADE PAVLOV

It begins by telling the story of radio reporter Comrade Pavlov. The comrade was assigned to go out to a big Moscow construction site and organise a broadcast by a team of building workers.

But Comrade Pavlov did not move out of his office. Instead, Izvestia reports, he felt no anxiety to go to the building site at all. "Whether it was sheer disinclination or fear of dirt, we cannot tell." So what did the Comrade do?

He made up his own speech on the great scale of building work in Moscow, and then he put a right watchman of Moscow's Broadcasting House to act the part of a team leader and read out "a discourse on the advantages of large panel constructions and plan fulfilment."

Unfortunately, the night watchman's family recognised him and wanted to know very sharply why he had concealed the fact that he was a building expert—and, even more important, what had been happening to his wages. And that was the undoing of Comrade Pavlov.

Izvestia goes on: "Other broadcasts concocted almost according to the same simple recipe are often heard on the regional air."

And then it gives this explanation: There are 12 correspondents working in the department. Seven of them are supposed to be permanently in the country. "In reality, only three of them are out travelling. The others refuse to leave the capital. They feel that the rural air is too bad for their health. So they invent agricultural stories in the city and broadcast with night watchmen as consultants."

On example quoted of fake agricultural reporting was when a radio reporter gave collective farm production figures: "This year, according to plan, the farm has already produced 5,200 pints of milk and 88,400 pounds of meat from eight cows." "So this way," says Izvestia, "he kills two birds with one blow. The cows are first milked and then butchered, or perhaps first butchered and then milked. For both meat and milk must be produced."

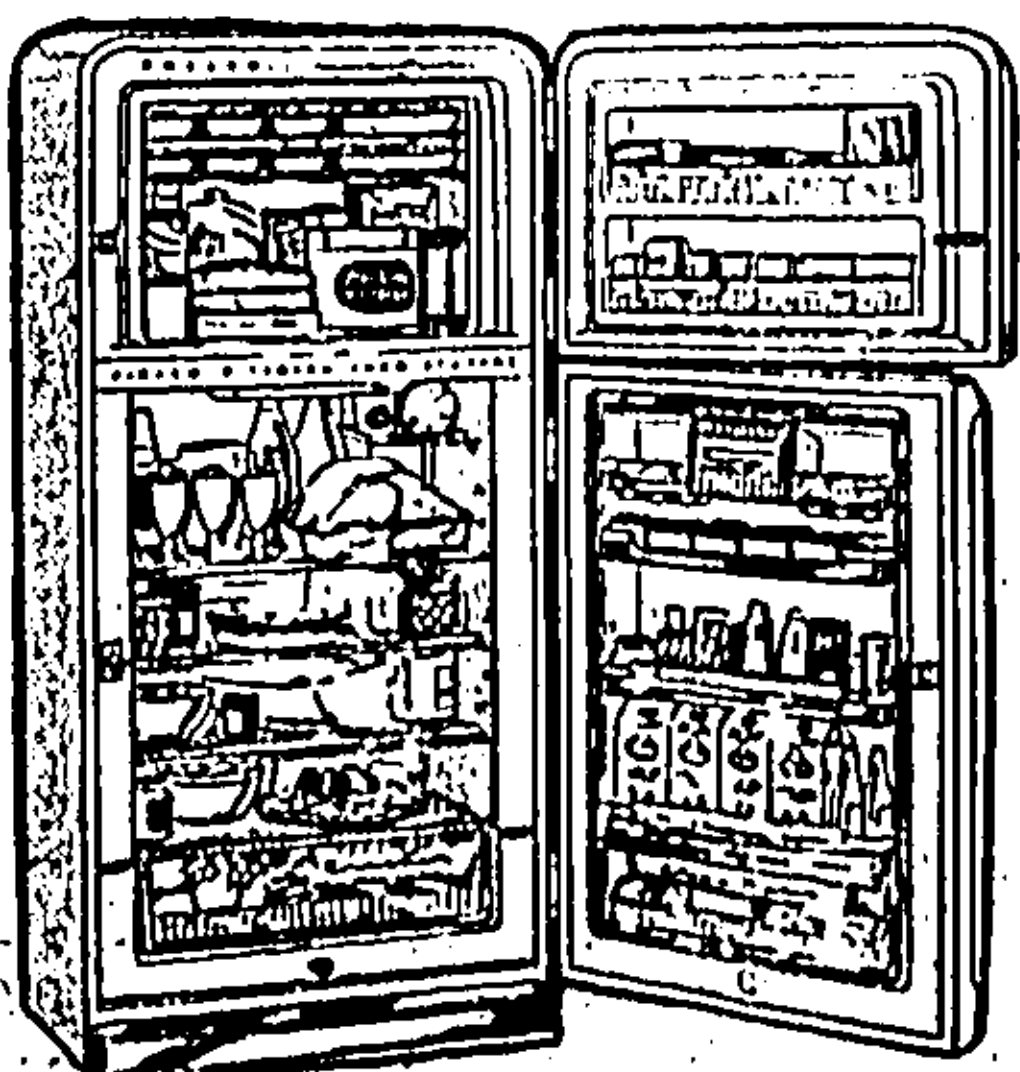
IN A HAZE

Another little report that Izvestia was a broadcast story of a collective farm, which was said to have produced 300 tons of cabbage from over 2½ acres. "The broadcast of this sort of nonsense is unforgivable," says the paper.

Then it pronounces on the question of style. It quotes from broadcasts the use of such words and phrases as "inter-continental", "modernity of yarn", "setting rove into the cycle", and it comments: "Without special technical training, the listener wanders in a haze. Broadcasts are steeped in clichés and stock phrases, and the meagreness and feebleness of style is positively amazing." The final sting comes in Izvestia's conclusion. It recalls that there is a very good children's broadcast called "Guerra II." Alas, there is no such broadcast for adults. "But never mind," says Izvestia consolingly. "The place is well filled by some of the broadcasts of the Moscow regional radio."

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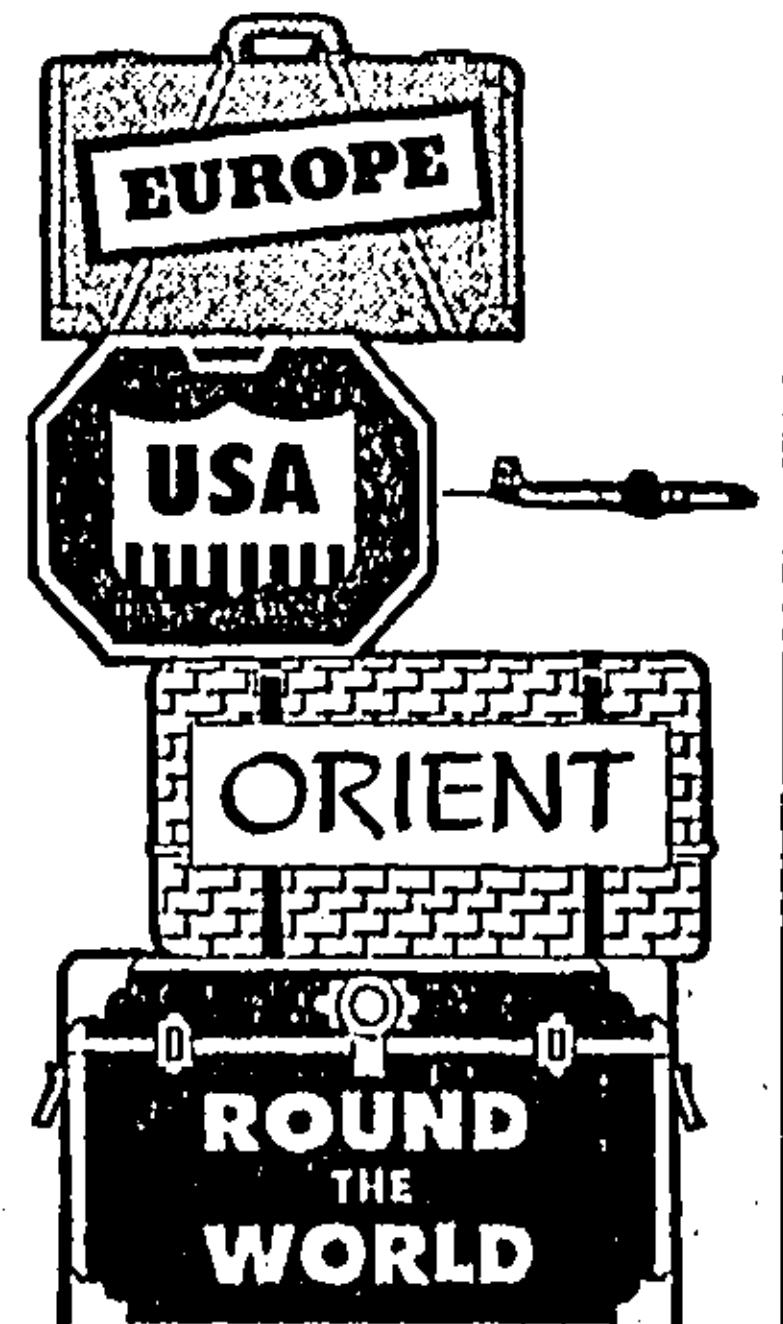
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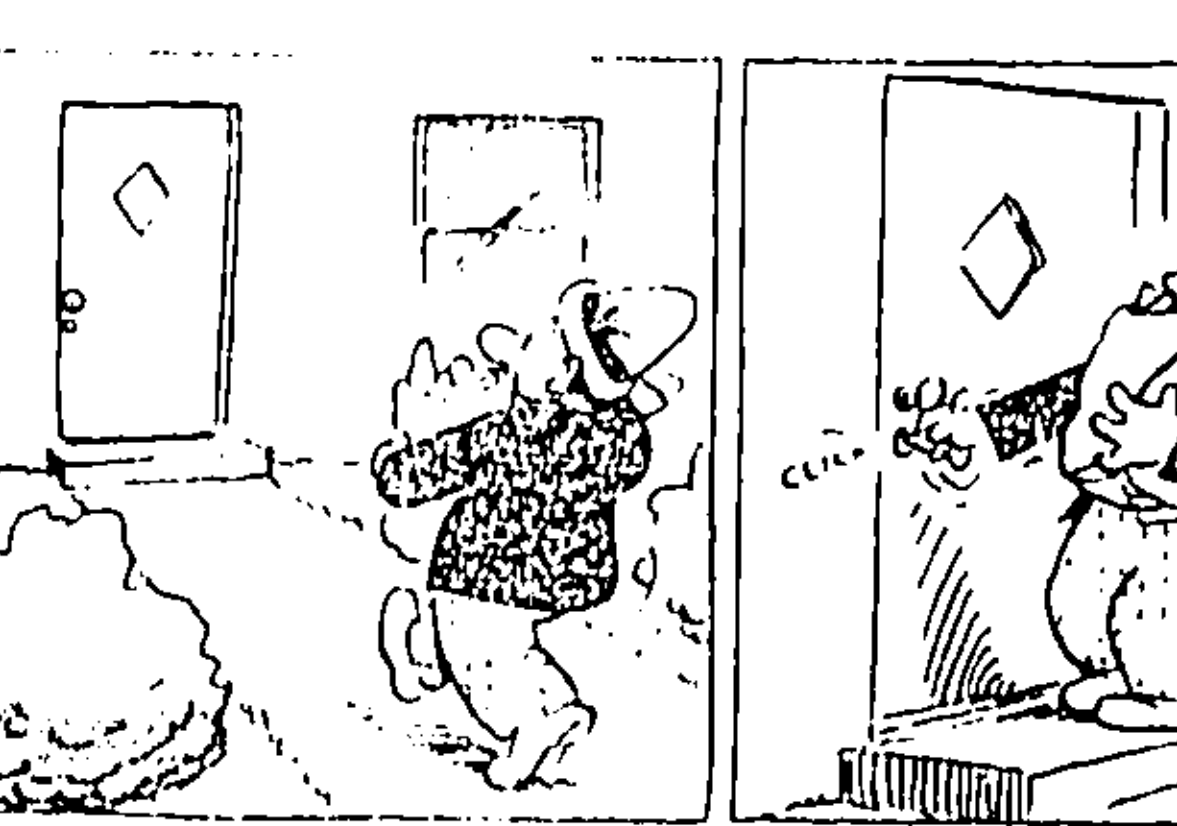
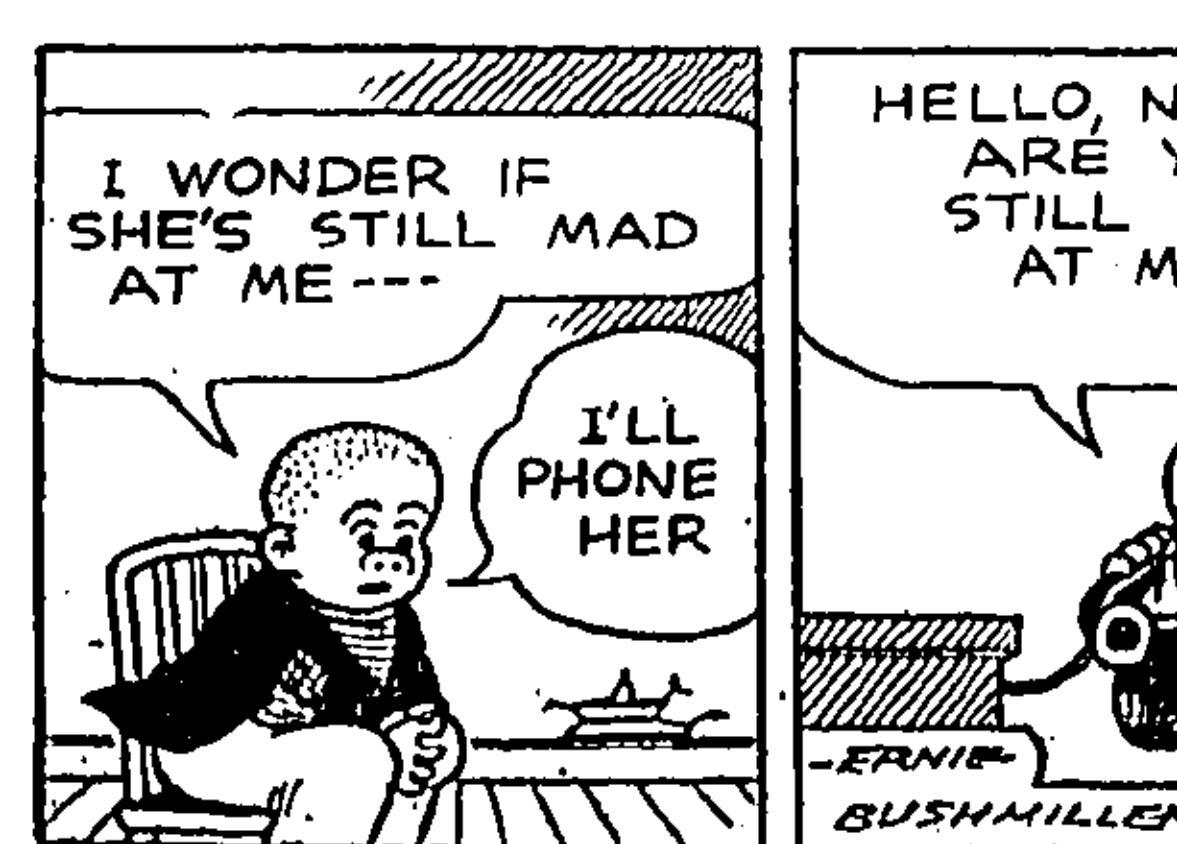
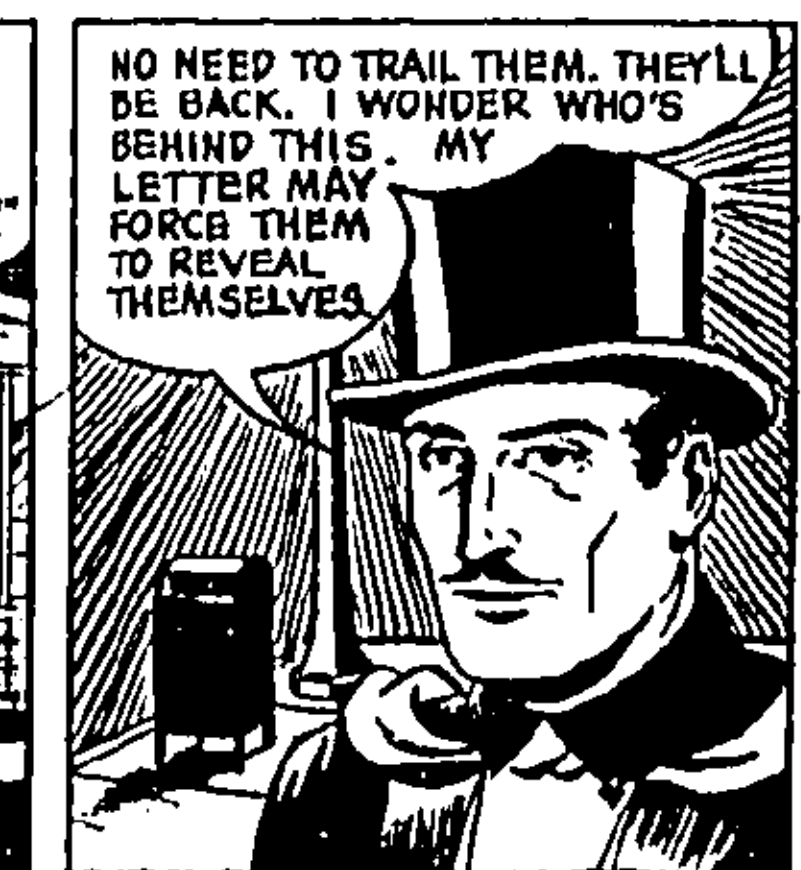
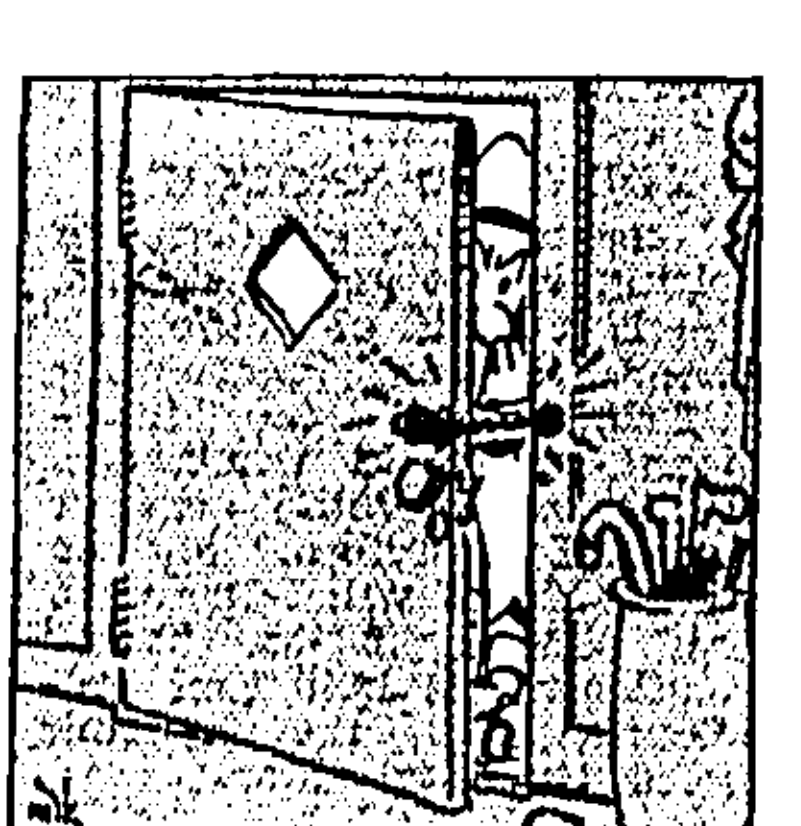
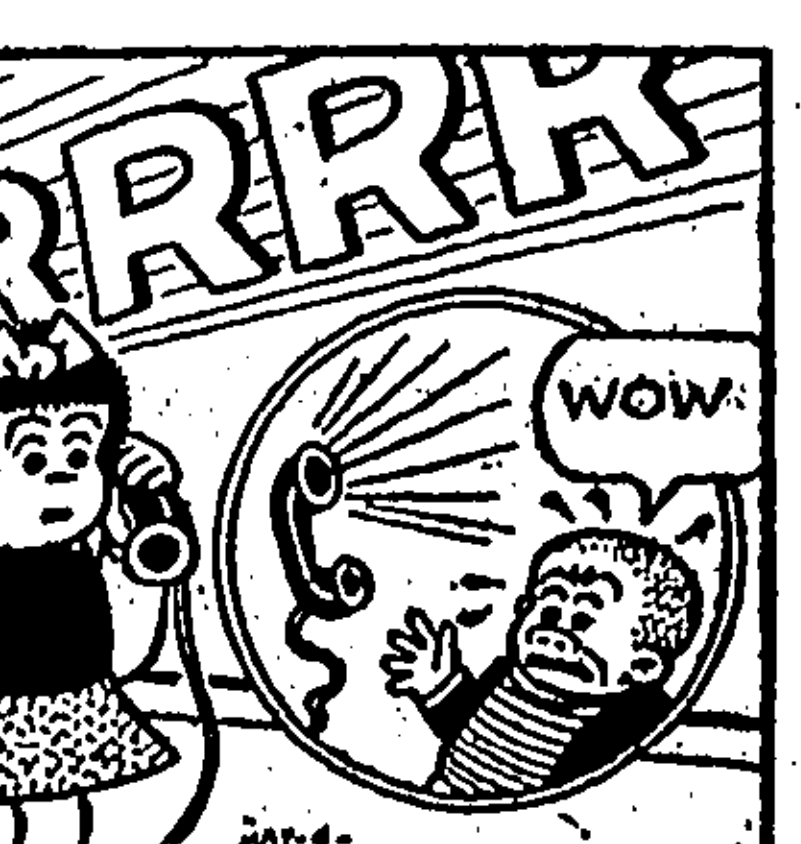
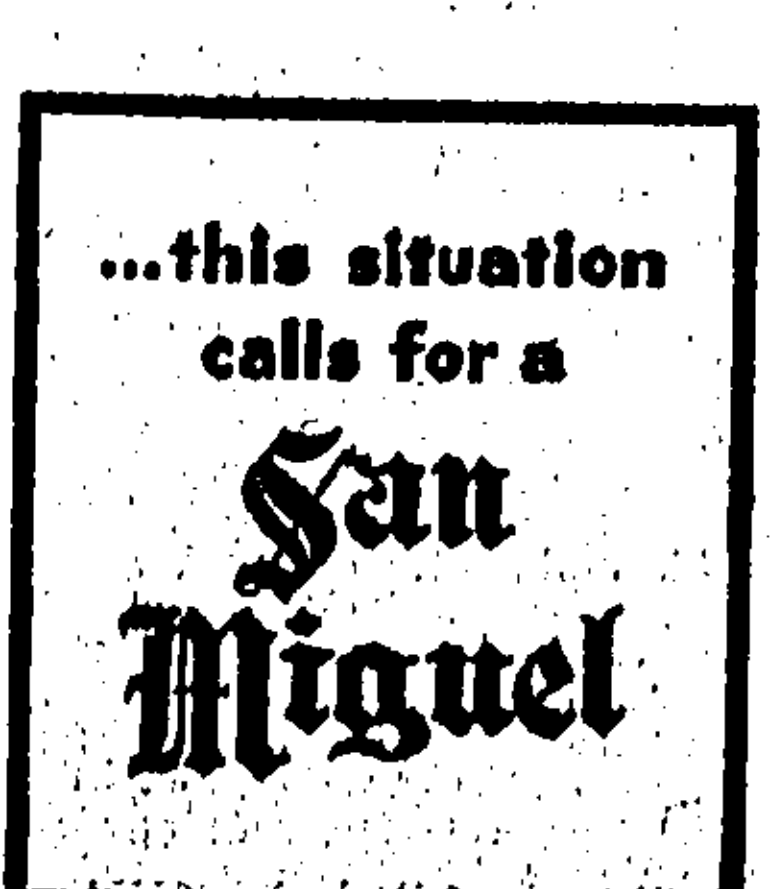
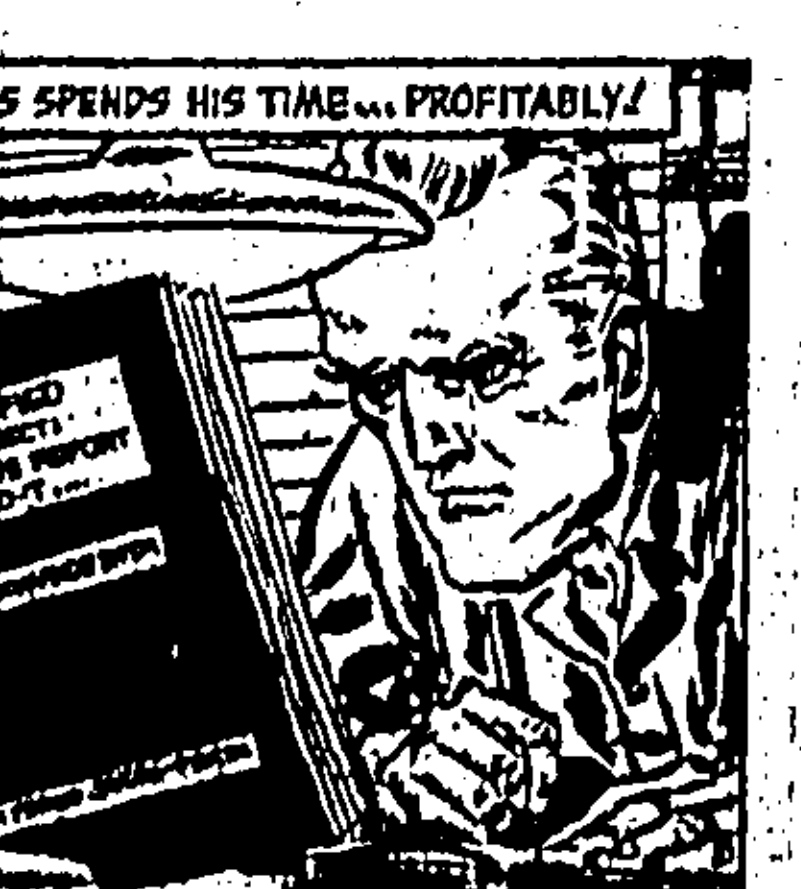
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PAN AMERICANSALT CITY
MILLENNIUM*But Its Historic
Buildings
Are Collapsing*

Lueneburg, July 4.

Hundreds of houses are in danger of
collapsing in Lueneburg because water is
seeping through the salt subsoil on which
the town is built, leaving behind great
cavities.A tragedy for Lueneburg
that will on which its pros-
perity largely depended for
many generations in the past,
should be ending. Its
existence in the year in which
the city celebrates its millennium.
The first mention of the city
in a document dated August
1056 AD. In it King Otto
I, most powerful of the Saxon
King of medieval Germany,
gave Saint Michael's monastery
the right to take salt from
the salt.**Serious Problem**In the following centuries,
Lueneburg traders grew rich by
selling the salt which they
brought under and around their
town. To this day Lueneburg
celebrates present every couple
they marry with a little bag of
salt as a symbol of love and
happiness.Now the salt in the sub-soil
is presenting a serious problem.
Water seeping into it gradually
washes cavities into the ground,
the salt begins to sink and
houses built on it crumble
away.House after house in the old
part of the city has to be pulled
down before it collapses. About
2,000 inhabitants of the city's
old part will have to be resettled
in the next few years.Many of the threatened
houses are quaint half-timbered
buildings of the 17th century
which, normally, appear on a
commemorative stamp issued
to celebrate the millennium.The glory of Lueneburg
coincides with the great days of
the Hanseatic League, or the
later middle age, when the
traders of the North German
towns banded together in a
League of cities. It became
the greatest power in
northern Europe.Their wealth was herring,
caught in the Baltic, and highly
prized in an age when salt was
scarce in winter and forbidden
as a mulcture of fasting days.
Lueneburg provided the salt in
which the fish was preserved.At times the Hanseatic
merchants who piled to
Lueneburg and Britain had
their salt weighed against gold.
Without salt, medieval Euro-
peans could not preserve the
meat they ate in winter.Rivalry between the inde-
pendent burghers of Lueneburg
and the clergy has given the
city some of its most im-
pressive buildings, the churches
of Saint John, Saint Nicolas
and Saint Michael. The church
did not want to be outdone by
the traders in the magnificence
of its architecture.**Date Decline**Two generations after
Lueneburg had lost its inde-
pendence in 1637 Johann
Sebastian Bach, whose records
describe as "the son of poor
parents and a good trouble,"
learned to play the organ at the
church of Saint Michael.
On the secular side, the town
hall is considered to be one
of the finest in Germany.
Builders throughout seven
centuries worked to complete
the building, which combines
earliest Gothic with clean
Renaissance forms and the
baroque building of the baroque.
Yet three later styles date to
a period of decline. The
Hanseatic League had been
broken by the European wars,
salt had become more common
and the herring had migrated
from the Baltic. The new*Knights'
Tombs
Uncovered*Budapest, July 4.
Road-builders working near
Tiszavarsanyi, Hungary, were
surprised when their removal
shovels chipped into the tombs
of some 7th century knights,
reports the Hungarian News
Service.Several hundred full-breast
armour suits, made up of small
scales, were recovered from
the two tombs—the first com-
plete sets discovered in Hun-
gary.Pike-heads, three-edged
arrow heads, crossbow shields
and double-edged swords were
found as well as horse bridles
and stirrups. — China Mail
Special.Marshall Bulganin, pictured
left, greets the Shah of Persia
when the Shah arrived re-
cently in the Soviet capital
with Queen Soraya.—Express
Photo.**RUBBER
BULLETS
FOR POLICE**Calcutta, July 4.
Police in this tradi-
tionally turbulent city
have decided to use rub-
ber bullets against rioters
to hurt them rather than
kill them.The bullet is of hard rubber
with lead inside to give it
weight and it will be used if
tear-gas and baton charges fail
to disperse rioters. The Govern-
ment hopes it will be effective
enough to stop rioting and end
the need for using proper bullets.**TOUCHED**According to the weekly paper
Current, "The Government has
been touched by the criticism
that more people have died in
police firing in West Bengal
during nine years of Congress
rule than during an entire half
century of British rule."Police handling riots will
also wear steel wire masks
thickly padded with wool and
leather to protect them from
stones. — China Mail Special.SHAH IN
MOSCOWSOUTH AFRICA
TIGHTENS UP
ON BOOK BAN

Capetown, July 4.

South Africans will soon be searching their
bookshelves to see if they have any books which
appear in a new Government list of banned
publications ranging from indecent books and
magazines to political documents.To sell, display or own any of
the publications on the banned
list may lead to a fine of up to
£1,000 or five years imprisonment.Over 3,000 books have been
banned by government censors
since the start of World War II.
Some 80 titles join the list every
month. Until now no official
master list had been available
for anyone who does not read
the official government gazette
in which the banned books are
regularly listed.**Paris Magazine**Some 36 readers are employ-
ed by the censorship board to
scrutinise doubtful literature.
The Minister agreed in Parlia-
ment that he could look at only
one in 20 books which the Board
felt should be banned but he
said he did not necessarily
accept all their recommenda-
tions.In a recent list of banned
publications were titles ranging
from "Secrets of a Co-ed" to
"Speech to the National Con-
ference of Railwaymen (Rumun-
ian)". All future issues of a
world famous Paris pictorial
magazine were also named.Some books are banned just
because of the character of their
contents or illustrations. Many
magazines purporting to advance
the cult of nudism have been
blacklisted and a large number
of "pulp" books and periodicals
with racy titles have been
banned.Books periodicals or films
dealing with racial colour or in-
troducing coloured characters
are suspect at once. Care is
taken not to inflame passions or
racial feelings in a society where
the Government feels that a
white minority must always rule.**Stimulating**One of the standard stories
about censorship in South
Africa grew out of the excessive
zeal of a customs man who had
doubts about the title "Black
Beauty" the classic story of a
horse.The story grew until it was
commonly believed that this
famous story had been rejected
for its "obvious" colour classi-
fication. At last it became a
question in the South African
House of Assembly where the
Minister had to explain it, say-
ing that the Board of Censors
had ever actually banned the story.Numbers of well-known
writers have seen their works
banned in South Africa. Some
find it a stimulating form of
publicity for sales in other coun-
tries, although loss of the South
African market, relatively a
good one for books, is always
regretted.Sex and the female form in
any kind of pictorial display
are always eligible for a censor's
cut. Some books on drawing the
female form have been forbidden
and overseas photographic
magazines featuring nude studies
occasionally fail to reach the
bookshelves.Posters advertising passionate
film scenes or "leg shows" out-
side cinemas are hastily "dressed-
up" or blanked out if the white
heroine looks too "abandoned"
for African eyes.**Few Fines**The Minister responsible for
censorship, Dr. Danges, planned
to hold a private exhibition of
banned pornographic publica-
tions to show responsible citizens
the type of thing kept out of the
country but most of the seized
titles had already been de-
stroyed.Political censorship hits hard
at communism.Few cases have arisen of
South Africans being penalised
for owning banned books but a
Durban, Natal, building con-
tractor, was recently fined £25
for possessing the first four
volumes of the works of Joseph
Stalin, the former Russian
leader.**Not Liable**The volumes were also con-
fiscated and the defendant was
said that he planned to appeal
against the decision. He con-
tended that he brought the books
back from a visit to Europe in
June, 1955, before a government
list was published including
them as banned books.The magistrate ruled that the
owner or possessor of books
imported into South Africa be-
fore they were banned could not
be considered exempt from
prosecution. — China Mail
Special.**Danes Take
Hawker
Hunters**Copenhagen, July 4.
The Danish Ministry of
Defence has permitted the Air
Force to take delivery again of
British Hawker Hunter jet
fighters.Denmark had ordered 30 Hun-
ters, but deliveries had been
temporarily suspended.Permission to resume deliveries
was issued after a number of
Danish technicians who had
been to Britain to investigate
the question reported favourably
on latest modifications to meet
criticisms of the plane's air-
worthiness under firing con-
ditions. — China Mail Special.**English For
Norwegian
Children**Oslo, July 4.
By a majority vote, after
three hours' discussion,
Oslo Education Committee
decided to provide instruc-
tion in English for all
elementary school children
who want it.The instruction will be given
in the two last years of the
elementary school period, that
is, for children of 13 and 14.Up to now children have
been selected for instruction in
English. Critics of this system
have complained that it is dis-
criminatory.Under the new system, to
come into force next year, the
children themselves will decide
whether they shall learn
English.A large minority of education
committee members, mostly
Labour and Communist, pro-
posed that instruction in
English should be compulsory
and universal instead of
optional. — China Mail Special.**MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN****FERD'NAND****NANCY****JOHNNY HAZARD****By Lee Falk and Phil Davis****By Mik****By Ernie Bushmiller****By Frank Robbins**

TRADE and COMMERCE SECTION

Repercussions Of Amalgamation
Of Canada's Labour UnionsIMPACT ON ECONOMICS AND
MAYBE ON 1957 ELECTION

Ottawa, July 4.

The amalgamation of Canada's two strongest labour groupings at the end of April is certain to have a considerable impact upon the economic life of Canada and may have repercussions upon its political direction, perhaps even at the next general election, expected next year.

Inspired by the consolidation of forces in American labour, the Canadian Trades and Labour Congress and the Canadian Congress of Labour, with a membership between them of just under one million, amalgamated at a Toronto convention, becoming the "Canadian Labour Congress."

Since the Trades and Labour Congress, with over 600,000 members, had the largest membership, it was natural that the president of the new amalgamated body should have been chosen from its ranks. He is Mr. Claude Jodoin, almost unknown in Canadian labour circles until he became president of the Trades and Labour Congress two years ago.

Father Lost Money

But what is most unusual about the election of Mr. Jodoin is that the leadership has been entrusted to one of the younger generation of professional labour leaders rather than, as has been the practice hitherto, to a man who rose from the ranks of labour itself.

Claude Jodoin was born to the comparative affluence of a Canadian family, a son of a successful businessman and a wife of a well-to-do Montrealer. His father lost his money in the 1929 stock market crash and young Claude had to start work, earning 15 dollars a week clearing brush.

He entered the labour movement as an organizer for the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union in 1937, at 35 dollars a week. This, in the slang of Canadian labour, is "pie-eating" pay, a contrast to the "hog-chopper" men who have served long years in a factory or packing plant. But this fact was never used against Jodoin in his rise to the presidency since he proved to be an excellent commander of English, as well as his mother tongue, French.

At Toronto, Mr. Jodoin dismissed criticism of his origin with a quiet smile. "Some people will say I have grown out of the labour movement. I tell you I have grown with the labour movement."

Just as Canada has chosen a French Canadian Catholic as Prime Minister, so has the Canadian labour movement chosen one, at a time when this may have important repercussions. It happens that the only large body of organized labour remaining outside the amalgamation is the Canadian and Catholic Confederation of Labour, with 97,000 members, most of whom are French-Canadians in the Province of Quebec. This latter organization, while not excluding Protestants, is organized on confessional lines and has hitherto remained aloof from international labour organizations.

Crucial Matter

Now, however, its leaders have given an indication that they are willing to consider amalgamation with the new Canadian Congress, provided that their position is properly safeguarded. The fact that Mr. Jodoin can speak to them in their own language and as a Catholic should smooth negotiations.

In the crucial matter of political action, Mr. Jodoin's influence appears to have been paramount. One of the principal obstacles to union between the two amalgamating sections was the fact that the Trades and Labour Congress (which had links with the American Federation of Labour) remained neutral in politics, while the Canadian Congress of Labour (linked with the American Committee of Industrial Organizations) had definite affiliations with Canada's Socialist party, the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation, which it recognized explicitly as the political arm of the labour movement.

Members of Canada's largest political parties, the Liberals and Conservatives, feared that one result of amalgamation might be to hand over a large body of votes to the socialist Co-operative Commonwealth Federation. This fear was exaggerated, in any case, since while the Canadian Congress of Labour

officially backed the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation, it did not attempt to control the votes of its membership and actually its members did not vote solidly for socialist candidates. The affiliation, however, did have some influence.

Two Resolutions

In the final bargaining at Toronto, a compromise was worked out for which Mr. Jodoin, a former Liberal party worker, is given much credit by both sides.

Under this formula, two resolutions were passed which have these practical effects:

- 1 They initiate a programme of political education at union level.
- 2 They leave the individual unions free to endorse parties or candidates from any party, as they may wish.
- 3 They recognize the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation as a party which "has fought consistently for labour's legislative programme."
- 4 They direct the political action committee to explore the possibilities of co-operation with farm groups, non-affiliated unions, and political parties pledged to support the Canadian Congress of Labour legislative programme—any Canadian party except, specifically, the Labour Progressive (Communist) party.

US IMPORTS HIT
RECORD HIGH
LAST YEAR

New York, July 4.

US imports swelled to a record high of more than 11.3 billion in 1955, as the sharp upward post-war trade trend continued unabated, the Federal Reserve Bank of New York reported today.

In the past ten years US imports climbed 177 per cent from the 1946 level of 4.1 billion, the Bank said in its July review of credit and business conditions.

This dramatic rise in imports reflects a fundamental shift in the role of this country from an exporter to a new importer of several commodities basic to this nation's economic growth, the article observed.

Alloy Fears

This development also would allay to some extent fears that the rest of the world would not benefit fully from that growth "because our imports, to many analysts, seemed to grow at a slower rate than our national economy," the Bank said.

"It is therefore relevant to note," the article continued, "that since 1948—the beginning of the Marshall Plan—the value of US imports has increased 60 per cent, compared with a 50 per cent rise in the gross national product."

The Bank noted that imports of petroleum, iron ore, non-ferrous metals, and other raw materials have risen "substantially" as domestic supplies have failed to meet the demands for these vital commodities.

Higher incomes and changing consumption patterns have brought bigger imports of finished goods and manufactured foodstuffs, it was pointed out.

"Crude foods have not fared quite so well," the Bank said, "primarily because of special developments affecting the price and quantity of coffee and cocoa imports."

The Socialists are pleased at the recognition of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation, alone among Canadian parties, as having contributed to Labour's legislative programme.

The non-socialists are pleased that the new organization has no such official link with the Federation as had the old Canadian Congress of Labour.

Conservatives and Liberals are pleased that their parties may win the endorsement of the new amalgamation.

The weakness of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation has been its total failure to make progress in the French-speaking, Catholic province of Quebec. At the same time, it has had rather remarkable success in building a following from such disparate elements as the industrial workers of the great cities and the farmers of the rural West, notably Saskatchewan, where a Co-operative Commonwealth government is in power.

Great Strides

In order to win votes in Quebec, the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation recently changed its official name in French to Social Democratic party.

Whether in affiliation, however loose, with this party or perhaps through a Canadian Labour party yet to be born, the Canadian Congress of Labour, under Mr. Jodoin, seems likely to make great strides in the province of Quebec.—China Mail Special.

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London Share
Prices
Move Higher

London, July 4.
Prices moved higher in moderately active trading on the London Stock Exchange today with industrial and oil holding the spotlight.

Borax deferred featured with a jump of about 14 shillings. Bowaters, reportedly an American buying, rose 3s 3d. Also showing good gains were Rolls-Royce, 2s 6d and Ford Motor, 1s 3d.

Royal Dutch paced a strong oil group with a rise of 2 1/2. British Petroleum, Shell Transport and Canadian Eagle went up 3s 6d.

British Government bonds were active and closed with gains of 1/16 to 1/4.

Germanies were weak with Polish 5 1/2 per cent down £2, the 7s down £1 and the Young Loan non-assented off 1/4. Several Japanese non-assented, however, rose 1/4 to £1.—United Press.

WORLD
RUBBER
MARKETS

London, July 4.
The rubber market was quiet after firm with spot quoted at 26 5/16 pence per lb.

Prices:

| | |
|--|---------------|
| No. 1 Raw spot | 20 1/2-20 3/4 |
| Settlement house term | 20 1/2-20 3/4 |
| Aug. | 20 1/2-20 3/4 |
| Sept. | 20 1/2-20 3/4 |
| Oct/Nov | 20 1/2-20 3/4 |
| Jan/Feb | 20 1/2-20 3/4 |
| Apr/May | 20 1/2-20 3/4 |
| General market, off basis, ports: | |
| July | 20 1/2-20 3/4 |
| Aug. | 20 1/2-20 3/4 |
| Sept. | 20 1/2-20 3/4 |
| Estimate crepe thin July 32 1/2, Aug. 32 1/2, thick 34 1/2 | |

SINGAPORE

Subject to minor fluctuations the market here today continued steady throughout the session with some trade and factory interest. Futures closings were:

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| No. 1 rubber per lb. July | 91 1/2-91 3/4 |
| Aug. | 90 1/2-90 3/4 |
| Sept. | 89 1/2-89 3/4 |
| Oct. | 88 1/2-88 3/4 |
| Nov. | 87 1/2-87 3/4 |
| Dec. | 86 1/2-86 3/4 |
| Jan. | 85 1/2-85 3/4 |
| Feb. | 84 1/2-84 3/4 |
| Mar. | 83 1/2-83 3/4 |
| Apr. | 82 1/2-82 3/4 |
| May | 81 1/2-81 3/4 |
| June | 80 1/2-80 3/4 |
| July | 79 1/2-79 3/4 |
| Aug. | 78 1/2-78 3/4 |
| Sept. | 77 1/2-77 3/4 |
| Oct. | 76 1/2-76 3/4 |
| Nov. | 75 1/2-75 3/4 |
| Dec. | 74 1/2-74 3/4 |
| Jan. | 73 1/2-73 3/4 |
| Feb. | 72 1/2-72 3/4 |
| Mar. | 71 1/2-71 3/4 |
| Apr. | 70 1/2-70 3/4 |
| May | 69 1/2-69 3/4 |
| June | 68 1/2-68 3/4 |
| July | 67 1/2-67 3/4 |
| Aug. | 66 1/2-66 3/4 |
| Sept. | 65 1/2-65 3/4 |
| Oct. | 64 1/2-64 3/4 |
| Nov. | 63 1/2-63 3/4 |
| Dec. | 62 1/2-62 3/4 |
| Jan. | 61 1/2-61 3/4 |
| Feb. | 60 1/2-60 3/4 |
| Mar. | 59 1/2-59 3/4 |
| Apr. | 58 1/2-58 3/4 |
| May | 57 1/2-57 3/4 |
| June | 56 1/2-56 3/4 |
| July | 55 1/2-55 3/4 |
| Aug. | 54 1/2-54 3/4 |
| Sept. | 53 1/2-53 3/4 |
| Oct. | 52 1/2-52 3/4 |
| Nov. | 51 1/2-51 3/4 |
| Dec. | 50 1/2-50 3/4 |
| Jan. | 49 1/2-49 3/4 |
| Feb. | 48 1/2-48 3/4 |
| Mar. | 47 1/2-47 3/4 |
| Apr. | 46 1/2-46 3/4 |
| May | 45 1/2-45 3/4 |
| June | 44 1/2-44 3/4 |
| July | 43 1/2-43 3/4 |
| Aug. | 42 1/2-42 3/4 |
| Sept. | 41 1/2-41 3/4 |
| Oct. | 40 1/2-40 3/4 |
| Nov. | 39 1/2-39 3/4 |
| Dec. | 38 1/2-38 3/4 |
| Jan. | 37 1/2-37 3/4 |
| Feb. | 36 1/2-36 3/4 |
| Mar. | 35 1/2-35 3/4 |
| Apr. | 34 1/2-34 3/4 |
| May | 33 1/2-33 3/4 |
| June | 32 1/2-32 3/4 |
| July | 31 1/2-31 3/4 |
| Aug. | 30 1/2-30 3/4 |
| Sept. | 29 1/2-29 3/4 |
| Oct. | 28 1/2-28 3/4 |
| Nov. | 27 1/2-27 3/4 |
| Dec. | 26 1/2-26 3/4 |
| Jan. | 25 1/2-25 3/4 |
| Feb. | 24 1/2-24 3/4 |
| Mar. | 23 1/2-23 3/4 |
| Apr. | 22 1/2-22 3/4 |
| May | 21 1/2-21 3/4 |
| June | 20 1/2-20 3/4 |
| July | 19 1/2-19 3/4 |
| Aug. | 18 1/2-18 3/4 |
| Sept. | 17 1/2-17 3/4 |
| Oct. | 16 1/2-16 3/4 |
| Nov. | 15 1/2-15 3/4 |
| Dec. | 14 1/2-14 3/4 |
| Jan. | 13 1/2-13 3/4 |
| Feb. | 12 1/2-12 3/4 |
| Mar. | 11 1/2-11 3/4 |
| Apr. | 10 1/2-10 3/4 |
| May | 9 1/2-9 3/4 |
| June | 8 1/2-8 3/4 |
| July | 7 1/2-7 3/4 |
| Aug. | 6 1/2-6 3/4 |
| Sept. | 5 1/2-5 3/4 |
| Oct. | 4 1/2-4 3/4 |
| Nov. | 3 1/2-3 3/4 |
| Dec. | 2 1/2-2 3/4 |
| Jan. | 1 1/2-1 3/4 |
| Feb. | 1/2-3/4 |
| Mar. | 1/4-1/2 |
| Apr. | 1/8-1/4 |
| May | 1/16-1/8 |
| June | 1/32-1/16 |
| July | 1/64-1/32 |
| Aug. | 1/128-1/64 |
| Sept. | 1/256-1/128 |
| Oct. | 1/512-1/256 |
| Nov. | 1/1024-1/512 |
| Dec. | 1/2048-1/1024 |
| Jan. | 1/4096-1/2048 |
| Feb. | 1/8192-1/4096 |
| Mar. | 1/16384-1/8192 |
| Apr. | 1/32768-1/16384 |
| May | 1/65536-1/32768 |
| June | 1/131072-1/65536 |
| July | 1/262144-1/131072 |
| Aug. | 1/524288-1/262144 |
| Sept. | 1/1048576-1/524288 |
| Oct. | 1/2097152-1/1048576 |
| Nov. | 1/4194304-1/2097152 |
| Dec. | 1/8388608-1/4194304 |
| Jan. | 1/16777216-1/8388608 |
| Feb. | 1/33554432-1/16777216 |
| Mar. | 1/67108864-1/33554432 |
| Apr. | 1/134217728-1/67108864 |
| May | 1/268435456-1/134217728 |
| June | 1/536870912-1/268435456 |
| July | 1/1073741824-1/536870912 |
| Aug. | 1/2147483648-1/1073741824 |
| Sept. | 1/4294967296-1/2147483648 |
| Oct. | 1/8589934592-1/4294967296 |
| Nov. | 1/17179869184-1/8589934592 |
| Dec. | 1/34359738368-1/17179869184 |
| Jan. | 1/68719476736-1/34359738368 |
| Feb. | 1/137438953472-1/68719476736 |
| Mar. | 1/274877906944-1/137438953472 |
| Apr. | 1/549755813888-1/274877906944 |
| May | 1/1099511627776-1/549755813888 |
| June | 1/2199023255552-1/1099511627776 |
| July | 1/4398046511104-1/2199023255552 |
| Aug. | 1/8796093022208-1/4398046511104 |
| Sept. | 1/17592186044416-1/8796093022208 |
| Oct. | 1/35184372088832-1/17592186044416 |
| Nov. | 1/70368744177664-1/35184372088832 |
| Dec. | 1/140737488355328-1/70368744177664 |
| Jan. | 1/281474976710656-1/140737488355328 |
| Feb. | 1/562949953421312-1/281474976710656 |
| Mar. | 1/1125899906842624-1/562949953421312 |
| Apr. | 1/2251799813685248-1/1125899906842624 |
| May | 1/4503599627370496-1/2251799813685248 |
| June | 1/9007199254740992-1/4503599627370496 |
| July | 1/18014398509481984-1/9007199254740992 |
| Aug. | 1/36028797018963968-1/18014398509481984 |
| Sept. | 1/72057594037927936-1/36028797018963968 |
| Oct. | 1/144115188075855872-1/72057594037927936 |
| Nov. | 1/288230376151711744-1/144115188075855872 |
| Dec. | 1/576460752303423488-1/288230376151711744 |
| Jan. | 1/1152921504606846976-1/576460752303423488 |
| Feb. | 1/2305843009213693952-1/1152921504606846976 |
| Mar. | 1/4611686018427387904-1/2305843009213693952 |
| Apr. | 1/9223372036854775808-1/4611686018427387904 |
| May | 1/18446744073709551616-1/9223372036854775808 |
| June | 1/36893488147419103232-1/18446744073709551616 |
| July | 1/73786976294838206464-1/36893488147419103232 |
| Aug. | 1/147573952589676412928-1/73786976294838206464 |
| Sept. | 1/295147905179352825856-1/147573952589676412928 |
| Oct. | 1/590295810358705651712-1/295147905179352825856 |
| Nov. | 1/1180591620717411303424-1/590295810358705651712 |
| Dec. | 1/2361183241434822606848-1/1180591620717411303424 |
| Jan. | 1/4722366482869645213696-1/2361183241434822606848 |
| Feb. | 1/9444732965739290427392-1/4722366482869645213696 |
| Mar. | 1/18889465931478580854784-1/9444732965739290427392 |
| Apr. | 1/37778931862957161709568-1/18889465931478580854784 |
| May | 1/75557863725914323419136-1/37778931862957161709568 |
| June | 1/151115727451828646838272-1/75557863725914323419136 |
| July | 1/302231454903657293676544-1/151115727451828646838272 |
| Aug. | 1/604462909807314587353088-1/302231454903657293676544 |
| Sept. | 1/1208925819614629174706176-1/604462909807314587353088 |
| Oct. | 1/2417851639229258349412352-1/1208925819614629174706176 |
| Nov. | 1/4835703278458516698824704-1/2417851639229258349412352 |
| Dec. | 1/9671406556917033397649408-1/4835703278458516698824704 |
| Jan. | 1/19342813113834066795298816-1/9671406556917033397649408 |
| Feb. | 1/38685626227668133590597632-1/19342813113834066795298816 |
| Mar. | 1/77371252455336267181195264-1/38685626227668133590597632 |
| Apr. | 1/154742504910672534362390528-1/77371252455336267181195264 |
| May | 1/309485009821345068724781056-1/154742504910672534362390528 |
| June | 1/618970019642690137449562112-1/309485009821345068724781056 |
| July | 1/1237940039285380274899124224-1/618970019642690137449562112 |
| Aug. | 1/2475880078570760549798248448-1/1237940039285380274899124224 |
| Sept. | 1/4951760157141521099596496896-1/2475880078570760549798248448 |
| Oct. | 1/9903520314283042199192993792-1/4951760157141521099596496896 |
| Nov. | 1/19807040628566084398385987584-1/9 |

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THURSDAY, JULY 5, 1956.

JOHN CLARKE'S CASEBOOK

Edward At The Wheel

THE quiet street was lined on either side with cars parked nose-to-tail, glossy, glistening cars, whose garage the kerbside was on most nights. Into the quiet street, a quiet man named Edward walked. His step was slow and excessive, certain, as the steps tend to be of men who have drunk a lot and are determined to prove to themselves their absolute sobriety.

With nothing much on his mind beyond the recollections of a pleasant evening, Edward turned into the street of cars.

SO BEAUTIFUL

SEEN in his stately progress, he loved cars. And here before him seemed to be presented for his special benefit the choicest of all breeds. He stopped before a sleek and beautiful sedan, and regarded it for a moment with the kind of awe a woman might, confronted with the bows of a lady she had in a careless moment undertaken to name. He had never before stood so close to anything so frighteningly beautiful.

A monstrous idea crept into Edward's mind.

AT THE WHEEL

WHAT must it feel like to sit behind the steering wheel of such a car? Why should he not find out? He pressed open the door of the driving-seat. Just then a stranger hurried past, glanced at Edward and decided that he and the car did not belong to each other. He went on his way, and presently found a policeman. "There's a man in that quiet street," he said, "playing about with one of the cars. It may be perfectly all right, but the policeman marched off to investigate. He found Edward crouched over the steering wheel of the dream-car, blissful and preoccupied. "Now then," the policeman said.

LONGED TO DRIVE

AT Bow Street, Edward, a dark-haired man of 34, pleaded guilty to tampering with the mechanism of the car, and the story of his night's adventure was told to Mr. Bertram Reece. "The engine of the car had been switched on, and was going," said a policeman, "but this man cannot drive, and the car was so parked that it could not possibly have been moved without serious damage."

"Did he explain anything to you?" the magistrate asked.

"He said he longed to drive, and wanted to see what it was like to go through the motions," said the officer.

IF YOU WANT TO PRACTISE

"HE was not under the influence of drink to such an extent as to have been inebriated," the magistrate asked. "No, sir. The doctor examined him, and said he was not. He's a married man, sir, with two young daughters, and he came about £11 a week as a printer-decorator."

"What do you want to say?" the magistrate asked Edward.

"Only I'd had quite a lot to drink, and I'm very sorry," said Edward, hanging his head.

"Well, if you wanted to practise or learn to drive motorcars, you chose rather embarrassing circumstances," said the magistrate. "But you're a man of good character, I shall discharge you conditionally, but you must pay £2 2s. towards the doctor's fee."

"Yes, sir, thank you, sir," Edward said, and he went away, hurrying to his work, threatening his way across the West End streets, ignoring the lush and lovely cars, the concourse of elegance, the lunch-hour traffic jams provided.

Abortion Charge

Two men, one a medical technician, were remanded two days in Police custody by Mr. W. N. Thomas Tam at the Central Magistracy this morning on an abortion charge.

Defendants were Leung Holman, 38, medical technician of 22 Java Road, ground floor, and Tang Fui-die, 43, of 101 Des Voeux Road, Central.

The defendants were alleged to have unlawfully used an instrument with intent to procure a miscarriage on July 3.

Mail Notices

The latest times of posting shown below are those for unregistered correspondence posted at G.P.O., Hongkong. The latest posting times elsewhere which, in general, are earlier than the G.P.O. times can be ascertained by enquiry at the local office.

The latest posting times for registered articles are generally one hour earlier than the times shown below. Particulars regarding parcel mails can be ascertained by enquiry at any post office.

THURSDAY, JULY 5

Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, 6 p.m.

Great Britain, Europe 6 p.m.

U.S.A. 8 p.m.

Japan, U.S.A. & S. America, 4 p.m.

Malaya, Ceylon, Aden, Middle East, Great Britain & Europe, 6 p.m.

Macao, 6 p.m.

FRIDAY, JULY 6

Thailand, Burma, India, U.S.A., 10 a.m.

Germany, 10 a.m.

Formosa, Japan, Korea, Okinawa, 11 a.m.

Philippines, Australia, New Zealand, 2 p.m.

Guam, Hawaii, U.S.A., 2 p.m.

Formosa, 10 a.m.

India-China, France, 6 p.m.

Thailand, India, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, 6 p.m.

Europe, 6 p.m.

Canada, 6 p.m.

By Surface

China, People's Republic, 10.30 a.m.

India, Pakistan (P. India, Parcela via Karachi), 1 p.m.

Formosa, 1 p.m.

Macao, 6 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 7

Peking, Shanghai, Hankow, Kanton, 10 a.m.

Thailand, Malaya, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand & Ceylon, 11 a.m.

Philippines, 2 p.m.

Thailand, India, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, 6 p.m.

Europe, 6 p.m.

Canada, 6 p.m.

By Surface

China, People's Republic, 10.30 a.m.

India, Pakistan (P. India, Parcela via Karachi), 1 p.m.

Formosa, 1 p.m.

Macao, 6 p.m.

SUNDAY, JULY 8

China, People's Republic, 10.30 a.m.

India, Pakistan (P. India, Parcela via Karachi), 1 p.m.

Formosa, 1 p.m.

Macao, 6 p.m.

By Surface

China, People's Republic, 10.30 a.m.

India, Pakistan (P. India, Parcela via Karachi), 1 p.m.

Formosa, 1 p.m.

Macao, 6 p.m.

By Surface

China, People's Republic, 10.30 a.m.

India, Pakistan (P. India, Parcela via Karachi), 1 p.m.

Formosa, 1 p.m.

Macao, 6 p.m.

By Surface

China, People's Republic, 10.30 a.m.

India, Pakistan (P. India, Parcela via Karachi), 1 p.m.

Formosa, 1 p.m.

Macao, 6 p.m.

By Surface

China, People's Republic, 10.30 a.m.

India, Pakistan (P. India, Parcela via Karachi), 1 p.m.

Formosa, 1 p.m.

Macao, 6 p.m.

By Surface

China, People's Republic, 10.30 a.m.

India, Pakistan (P. India, Parcela via Karachi), 1 p.m.

Formosa, 1 p.m.

Macao, 6 p.m.

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From Our Files

100 Years Ago

Sir—Through the medium of your valuable columns may I make a few suggestions, and you will kindly excuse any errors, for though educated in England, I am a native of China, and as yet only a student of the English language.

I would suggest that the Chinese who may be admitted as candidates to the Rolls of Practitioners in the Supreme Court may be exempt from the punishment of flogging. The last Government Gazette, besides publishing a Draft Ordinance regarding admission of Chinese to practise in the court, has some awkward ordinances preceding the above, with penalties exclusively for my countrymen. The coincidence is curious, that these should be published on the same day on which Chinese should be permitted to practise in Courts of Justice.

As a student of English law I am at a loss to discover the justice of there being more severe penalties for Chinese than for any other people in the Colony. Chinese alone work in the Chain gang, Chinese alone are to be whipped, and the fines imposed upon Chinese are equal to three months' or a year's wages, whereas the same amounts levied upon drunkards or disorderly sailors, committing the same crimes, would only deprive them of a few days' pay! I suppose as my studies progress I shall learn why such a difference is made. Probably the Government do not wish Chinese to reside here, I would venture to say, as a cruel punishment to Chinese. I saw some in England—they are caters for the feet. You know, Sir, that Chinese are accustomed to carry burdens on their shoulders, and can without difficulty carry a cangue on level ground (but a fall when coming down such a hill as that of the gun would be fatal). Feet cangues are seldom used in England now.

CHINESE FUNERALS

Kindly give me information as to Chinese funerals; the Gazette says that "any person who shall use a grave of less than five feet in depth from the ordinary surface" shall be whipped. According to Chinese ideas it is the corpse that uses the grave—Would Government devalue the sacred remains?

The Ordinance shows such ignorance of Chinese notions regarding burial, and threats to those engaged in placing in its last house the body of a departed ancestor, that I fear the translator of "words of wisdom" has forgot to supply Sir John Bowring with maxims from the Chinese lately for Sir John to put in rhyme. I shall be happy to send him some if any public says that the Gazette says that the mortality among the Chinese is increasing (!) owing to the existence of certain nuisances, which appear to be wholly ascribed to Chinese burials, and an attempt is made to take the blame from the government. My countrymen are not alone to blame, and the Chinese burial nuisance is greatly exaggerated, though in a certain extent it does exist where papers have been buried, but this has gone on for a long time. I read in a newspaper lately that Sir John Bowring wrote as follows—"Often have I seen a corpse under the table of a public house, and I have found a putrid body at the threshold of a door"—He does not appear to move much about Hongkong, where such things may be seen; they certainly do not occur in China! His Excellency may be so accustomed to the putrid scent that he has not noticed it soon enough at Tai-ping-san.

LIGHTING BILL
I would suggest that the Lighting Ordinance be postponed, and no lamps lighted at night until the roads are in a fit state of repair and clearances to be seen more than need be. Few English intend to stay here long; but if I get through my examination, and practise in the court, Hongkong will be my home; therefore I take an interest in the place. This must serve as my apology for alluding to so many subjects, and taking up so much space.—I am, Dear Sir, your most obedient servant.

A Chinese Student of British Law.
Did not Sir John himself translate "words of wisdom"? They were certainly put forth, translation and verification, as his own.—Ed.

Medical Officers

Sir—Your recently published letter complaining about treatment in Casualty, Queen Mary Hospital, provoked a discussion from which I learnt several rather disturbing things.

(1) Medical Officers of Hongkong Government are on the same salary scale as Education Officers.

(2) Kowloon Hospital deals with many more casualties than Queen Mary Hospital but the surgeons dealing with these emergencies are all rated as Medical Officers despite having specialist qualifications. If this is correct then the doctors concerned deserve high praise for their sense of duty.

I cannot see how we can hope to have an efficient Medical Service in Hongkong until the status of the Medical Officer is raised from its present level. It is a surprise to me that anyone should remain in a salaried grade under the present conditions, especially when the financial rewards of private practice are so great.

JOE SAN.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



"My wife and I haven't eaten at home for so long I've almost forgotten what bicarbonate of soda looks like!"

COURT REDUCES SENTENCES

Two persons — one convicted of robbery with aggravation and the other of possession of dangerous drugs — successfully appealed against severity of sentence before the Full Court this morning.

The Court comprising the Chief Justice, Mr Justice M. J. Hogan, the Senior Puisne Judge, Mr Justice C. W. Reece and the Puisne Judge, Mr Justice J. R. Gregg reduced the sentence passed on Dai Tong, who was sentenced to seven years and six strokes of the cane for robbery with aggravation to five years, the order for the strokes being confirmed.

His Lordship the Chief Justice said that the Court unanimously came to the conclusion that the sentence imposed was somewhat too high. The strokes would be retained because appellant in the case used violence on a young girl, in the course of which she was injured slightly with a knife.

Appellant had a number of previous convictions.

In the other case, the sentence of four years imposed by the District Court Judge on Chong Ming-ol, manager of a dress factory in Fuk Wing Street for possession of 2.2 pounds of morphine was reduced from four to three years.

Appellant was represented by Mr A. S. C. Comer of Messrs Hastings and Company. Mr M. Morley-John, Crown Counsel, appeared for the Crown.

Mr Yu submitted that on the evidence appellant was obviously no more than a carrier in the drug deal and should be given a more lenient sentence.

NOT SMOKEABLE

Crude morphine in itself was not smokeable, he said. It had to go through another process before it could be used as a dangerous drug.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Man Appeals Against Murder Conviction

Found guilty and sentenced to death for the murder of a 19-year-old baby amah, a 22-year-old plumber, Lai Hok-tang, nicknamed "Black Boy" appealed against conviction before the Full Court, comprising the Chief Justice, Mr Justice M. J. Hogan, the Senior Puisne Judge, Mr Justice C. W. Reece and the Puisne Judge, Mr Justice J. R. Gregg this morning.

It was stated at the trial that Lau Siu-yin's half-naked body was found on her mistress's bed at 62 Fuk Lo Tsun Road, second floor, Kowloon City, on the night of February 27 last. Medical evidence was that she died from wounds allegedly inflicted with a broken beer-bottle. The identity card of the appellant was found in a jacket on the bed and two other servants testified that he was in the flat.

The accused had denied the murder, declaring that there was a strange man in the flat at the time.

Mr Victor Gittins, instructed by Mr P. Chan of Messrs Lau, Chan and Ko appeared for the appellant.

The Crown was represented by Mr M. Morley-John, Crown Counsel.

There was a slight stir as the appellant was led into the dock. His parents and a sister knelt before the Court, crying "Tai Yan" (My Lords). Before they were able to proceed further they were assisted to their feet by the Court usher and seated in the public bench.

Mr Gittins told the Court that appellant was convicted on June 5 of the murder of Lau Siu-yin on February 27, 1956, at No. 62 Fuk Lo Tsun Road, Kowloon City.

DEFENCE CASE

It was not disputed that there was considerable evidence in those proceedings that the appellant could have committed the offence, said Counsel, but the case for the defence right through the proceedings, by cross-examination, was that another person besides the appellant was there in the premises when the murder was committed. The case for the defence was that the crime was committed by that third party who was unidentified whilst appellant was shut in the bathroom in the flat.

"My task today is a very heavy one, my Lords," said Counsel. He had first to satisfy the Court that there was a misdirection as to the evidence and/or omission to put the defence adequately to the Jury by the learned Trial Judge in his summing-up. If he succeeded on that then he had to satisfy the Court that the misdirection and/or omission warranted quashing of the conviction.

Mr Gittins went on to say that if he was successful he had to satisfy their Lordships that the proviso section 82(2) of the Criminal Procedure Ordinance, Chapter 221 should not be applied against the appellant.

THE GROUNDS

The grounds of the appeal were in two parts; the first part was filed by the appellant in person with legal advice, and Counsel said he had nothing to say about them. They were in the usual form, stating appellant was falsely accused and wrongly convicted.

Further grounds had been drawn up by his legal representatives and forwarded to the Clerk of the Court, Counsel added.

In preparing the case the two major grounds (alleged misdirection and omission) ran into one another and he had been unable to keep them separate. Counsel said, with the Court's approval, he would address their Lordships on the two grounds at the same time.

Mr Gittins referred the Court to the transcript of the evidence given by a prosecution witness, Shiek Koon-hung, and said that during cross-examination the implication of a third party was put to the witness.

Counsel further drew the attention of the Court to

Shiek's evidence in which the witness denied that he had taunted the appellant that evening about the deceased girl. Hearing is continuing.

Corruption Trial Testimony

Further evidence on work on Army contracts was given by R. A. Bellamy, War Department clerk of works, at the trial of the Chinese contractor and two British officers accused of conspiracy and corruption at the Victoria District Court this morning.

The accused are Chau Chung-sang, 38, managing partner of the Shun Hing Construction Co., Major Donald Peachey, 47, and Capt. Harry Curtis, 46, both of the Royal Engineers, attached to the RE Works Services. They are alleged to have conspired together between November 12, 1953, and August 10, 1954 to cheat and defraud Her Majesty's Government in connection with construction work by the Shun Hing firm.

Chau is also charged with three counts of corruption, six of larceny and one of fraudulent conversion, the last count being alternative to the larceny charges. Peachey is charged with two corruption counts, and Curtis with one count.

Mr Desmond Mayne and Mr John Hobley, Crown Counsel, are prosecuting. Mr Patrick Yu, defending Chau, instructed by Mr K. Y. Jung, of Zimmern and Co., Mr John Clifford, instructed by Mr J. C. B. Slack, of Hastings and Co., is defending the two officers.

SURPRISED

Regarding a contract for the external painting of married quarters at Sek Kong, Bellamy said in evidence that he remembered work being carried out on that contract. He had been instructed to supervise the work.

The work diaries in respect of this contract were kept in his office. On February 23, 1954, Peach